

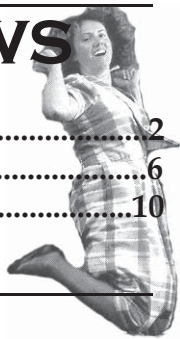
# MOUTH OF THE RIVER

OYSTER RIVER HIGH SCHOOL   DURHAM, NH 03824   ISSUE THREE   FEB. 17, 2011



## NEWS

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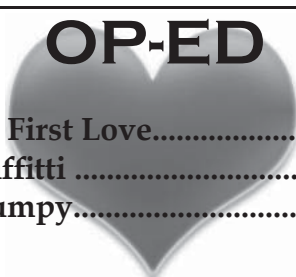
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**Emily Dube**  
**Guest Writer**

## REMEMBERING THE CHALLENGER

Universal feelings of excitement and anticipation filled the air of the Concord High School Auditorium as students, teachers and the press waited for the launch of the

space shuttle Challenger. It was January 28, 1986, six days later than the planned January 22<sup>nd</sup> launch date. The anticipation finally subsided at 11:38am when Challenger launched, carrying seven crew members, including Concord High's own Christa McAuliffe. After 73 seconds, the excitement felt in that auditorium turned to confusion, and ultimately sorrow.

After 73 long seconds in the air, Challenger exploded over the Atlantic Ocean at 11:39am. An O-ring from Challenger's right rocket booster failed, and allowed hot, pressurized gas to reach the external fuel tank. This led to a structural failure of the fuel tank, and ultimately caused the shuttle to explode.

As ORHS Social Studies teacher and Concord High Class of '88 Alum Matt Pappas recounts the feelings leading up to the launch were ecstatic; "Initially, there was a huge sense of pride for everyone in Concord. Because of the Cold War, it was a really prominent part of Reagan's agenda. It was constantly on the news, and we saw a ton of foreign press. As long as they didn't interrupt

classes, the media was given full reign of the school, so it was really exciting to see all of the cameras and reporters."

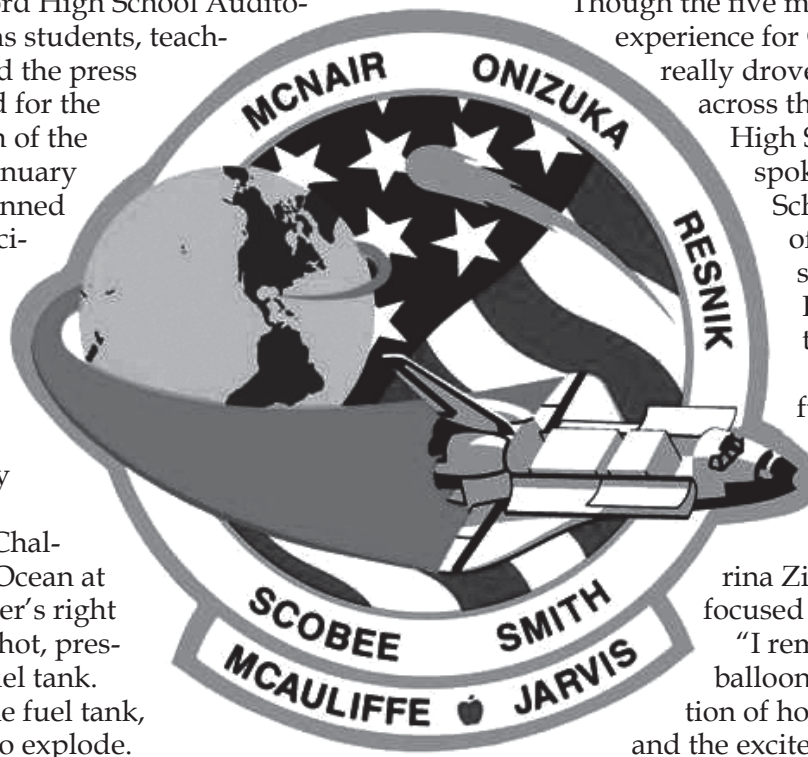
Though the five minutes of fame was a thrilling piece of the experience for Concord, it was McAuliffe herself who really drove the excitement and pride that was felt across the city. According to the 1986 Concord High School yearbook, "Christa McAuliffe spoke to the teachers of the Concord Union School District and the thrill and excitement of her being chosen to be the first citizen in space was passed on to all those present. It was here that we heard for the first time the phrase 'I touch the future; I teach.'"

The excitement that McAuliffe had fueled in Concord, and the high school especially, continued on the long awaited January launch date. Many of Concord High's students and faculty, including Pappas and Moharimet Counselor Carina Ziemek (CHS Class of '86 President), were focused on a small TV in the auditorium.

"I remember the excitement pre-launch, the balloons and party favors, the gradual realization of how big a deal the shuttle mission was and the excitement and anticipation of the launch. I remember seeing the explosion but not realizing that it had exploded until a teacher yelled for people to be quiet," remembers Ziemek.

"I was in the auditorium, watching the launch. At first, there was super excitement in the air then Mr. Lebron yelled 'shut up, there's

Continued on page 3...



Ellison Onizuka  
Michael Smith

Christa McAuliffe

Francis Scobee

Gregory Jarvis

Judith Resnik  
Ronald McNair

The Challenger Crew from left to right: top- Ellison Onizuka, Christa McAuliffe, Gregory Jarvis and Judith Resnik. Bottom: Michael Smith, Francis Scobee and Ronald McNair

Photo Courtesy of Concord High Crimson 1986



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
January 29, 1986

To the Faculty and Students of Concord High School:

Today all America joins with you in paying tribute to the memory of a teacher, a friend, a wife and mother, a leader.

The shock and grief, the numbness, we all experienced at having Christa McAuliffe so suddenly taken from our midst Tuesday morning is beyond the power of words to express. But through the silence of sorrow we can say that your burden is not only the burden of all Americans, but of people throughout the world who saw in Christa what you who knew her best saw in her -- a woman of courage and caring, an educator of boundless energy and inexhaustible enthusiasm, an inspiration to young and old alike.

In 1961, when the first manned missions were flown into space, Christa McAuliffe was 12 years old, younger than virtually all of you gathered here. She said recently that at the dawn of the space age she was fascinated by the possibilities it opened to the imagination, but that she never considered becoming an astronaut because there were no role models. And when she herself became a role model for others, she characteristically looked back in American history to others who had challenged a trackless frontier. On her application for selection as the first teacher in space, she wrote that, like the pioneer travelers of the Conestoga wagon days, she intended to keep a journal of her passage.

We will never have the opportunity to read that journal, but all of us -- all of you -- will have the opportunity to write the history that follows. And as you move forward from this day, as its clouds and shadows give way to fresh sunlight, I know that you will ponder many times how best to honor the memory of your dear friend. You could hardly do better than to believe as she believed, that the lives and example of every citizen alike -- teacher, engineer, lawyer, policeman, mother, father -- have the power to change the course of human events for the good. Robert Frost once wrote that, "We love the things we love for what they are." Christa McAuliffe was very emphatic and confident about who she was and the dream she and the crew of Challenger were pursuing. It is a dream older than mankind, as ageless as the universe into which the all-knowing God has placed us. And it is a dream which thrives only when we follow our destiny -- to labor, to explore, to seek, to discover, and to know.

We pray, then, that in granting Christa McAuliffe and her companions their eternal rest, God will fill each of us with the bounty of His peace and consolation.

Nancy and I are with you in thought and spirit. God bless you.

*Ronald Reagan*

President Ronald Reagan's official White House Condolences to Concord High School.

Photo Courtesy of Concord High Crimson '86

...Continued from page 2



Christa McAuliffe addresses the Concord Union School District and media from all over the world.

Photo Courtesy of Concord High Crimson '86

something wrong'. Even the media that was behind the TV filming our reaction stopped working and just watched," recounts Pappas.

The excitement felt by everyone was quickly followed by confusion, and eventually sadness. Even those who didn't know McAuliffe well or even at all, were touched by the tragedy.

"My roommate in college had Mrs. McAuliffe for a teacher," says ORHS's Tricia Messler. "The moment I heard I was at a gas station in Lynn and the attendant came up to me and said

'did you hear? did you hear?' and when I said no and he told me, I quit work for the rest of the day and went home to be with my roommate. It was one of those moments in time, like 9/11, one of those significant dates in history where you won't forget where you were when it happened."

Even ORHS Science teacher Mark Lawrence, who was only in second grade at the time, remembers the event.

"I was in second grade at the time. We were all watching the launch in my classroom. Then it blew up and I remember my teachers freaking out, with a bunch of second graders watching a space shuttle explosion..." stated Lawrence.

Much like 9/11 for the high school generation, the Challenger disaster is one that few will ever forget. Indeed, Pappas recounted his thoughts on the impact that the event had on the world today.

"What I seem to have noticed, although I can't prove it with numbers, is that more and more people who went to Concord High at the time have begun to teach and I really think it has something to do with the Challenger," shared Pappas.

Ziemek is no different in her thoughts about the Challenger. "I think about it every day. Thankfully I am now able to appreciate the good that has come of the experience and the lessons I've learned."



McAuliffe, showing off the joy she had for life in front of her class.

Photo Courtesy of Concord High Crimson '86

"I love my unicorn pillow pet." -Ava, Pre-Schooler



## A PLEA FROM YOUR EDITORS

### *To Whom it May Concern:*

Throughout high school, Laura Rogers has been a mentor and friend to both of us. Recently we have learned that she is resigning her position as Principal of the Oyster River High School. In all honesty we couldn't be more disappointed. Although we're both seniors and therefore won't be back next year, we are concerned for the future of ORHS. Mrs. Rogers has made it known that she is willing to go to bat for the students of this school, so who would we be if we did not return that favor?

Laura Rogers has been much more than a principal to the students of ORHS. She has made a noticeable and consistent effort to get to know each and every student and faculty member of this school. That's something that we've taken for granted over the years, but is not something that should be overlooked. Students at surrounding high schools will sometimes go all four years without speaking with their principal. Here at Oyster River High School, if a student has a problem the first place they will end up is in Mrs. Roger's office, where she will make a personal effort to improve that student's situation.

Over the years there have been some changes made to the school that, although seemingly unfair to the students, were not "worth" the effort to attempt to change. This is not one of those cases. Mrs. Rogers is one of the reasons why this school is so great; she has brought a sense of humor and from our perspectives an incredible work ethic to this school. Unlike any principals we have encountered in the past, she has become someone that we don't want to let down.

After all this we're left with a simple concern; if there is a job more important at this school than to inspire and educate, then Oyster River High School is headed in an unproductive and upsetting direction. Princeton defines a school as "a building where young people receive an education." We, the young people of this school, wish to receive our education. One can only hope that as the governing body representing this group of two thousand young people, the future school board members and voters can better represent the wants, needs and hopes of the future and current students of this school district than current representatives have shown of recent.

Signed,  
Your upset and under-represented Editors,

*Benjamin Belanger and Bridget Regan*





Emily Hickey Lauren Caga Hannah Nelson  
Sylvia All Justine Yaukey Leah Tanelle  
Petition for Laura Rogers to Remain Principal of  
Oyster River High School  
Kerin G  
GEOFF LEE Dillon GOMEZ  
Justin Petronitsis Olivia Moore Elissa Matheny  
Hallie Miller Ciera Gobron  
Jack Garnhart Hannah Schmitt Michael Deaudetto  
Andrew Sullivan Elizabeth Hart Rachel Vahlg  
Molly Goelzer Emma Sosa Nick Brown Jack Lewis  
BZ Fletcher Bob Heuchly  
Joseph Grant Chalkin  
Hank Ben Spinto Caplan  
Amelia Moore Josh Dostin  
Mike John Ryan Gorham  
Nate Frick Michaela Scenera  
Seamus McKenna  
Chane Dippold  
Angie  
Logan  
Tommy Lincum  
Aman  
Nick Dinegha SP.  
Kelley Hogan  
Isabelle Beagan  
Blanche Hickey  
True Jeffrey  
Evan Schulte  
Eric Fisher  
Evan Guillerette  
John Amick  
Joe Bennett  
Tyler Aeller  
Bernie Cahill  
JOHNSON  
Mark Plathwood  
Garrett Moore  
Bobby McDonough  
Brady B. and  
Megan May  
Emily Beriveau





Danielle Walczak  
News Writer

# THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF WALLY

## THE BOOKSTORE

Most high school students don't imagine themselves owning a store when they are a sophomore in high school. Neither did Wally but in 1978 when his mother, Deb Keniston, couldn't make a living out of it he took over the "Eyes of the Owl," a used book store in Wolfeboro, NH. Wally's store contains over 10 thousand volumes which he explains is like, "having my own special library." So why does Wally like having a bookstore? "The key thing about owning a used book store is people who are attracted to used book stores are interesting," he says. "They are conversational, intellectual; they tend to have a great sense of humor and are the people I tend to like to be around. So I've created an environment that allows me to interact with interesting people." Wally is surprised that the book store had been part of his life for 33 years.

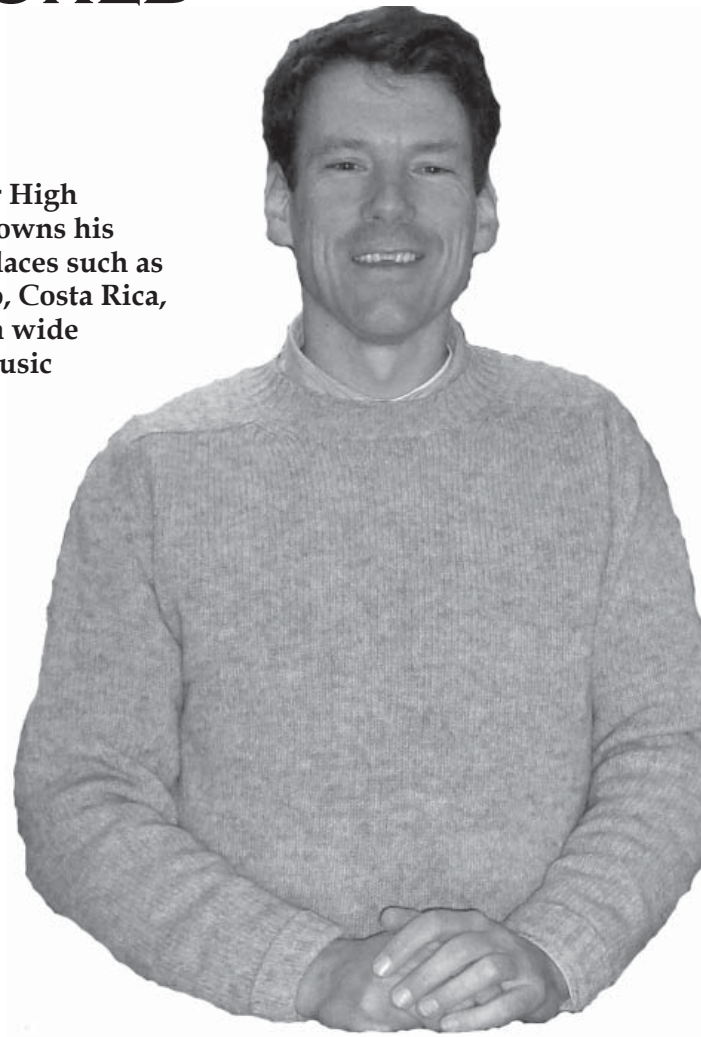
This seems to make a lot of sense, yet there is a reason that lies even deeper than this. Wally is an avid, involved reader. "I was reading things way beyond my years. Between the time when I figured out what the alphabet was to the time I was reading chapter books was literally a year and a half." He says much of his quick aptitude in reading was a result of his first grade teacher. Wally's favorite book depends on the moment and the audience.



Wally at age six

**W**hat member of the Oyster River High School faculty, enjoys contra dancing, owns his own used book store, has traveled to places such as Chile, Buenos Aires, India, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Mexico, Britain and Spain and enjoys a wide variety of music ranging from Celtic music to hip-hop? Any guesses? No? The answer is our own librarian Wally Keniston!

Wally Keniston was born and raised in Wolfeboro, NH. He now lives in Alton Bay. As a child, Wally wanted to be a firefighter but since first grade when he stopped wanting to be a firefighter things have never been the same. Over the years Wally has compiled a wide variety of experiences in his repertoire. This article is just attempting to scratch the surface of the interesting and insightful individual Wally is.



## CHILDHOOD AND HIGH SCHOOL

Wally's sister Katie Keniston remembers Wally being an intellectual, analytical and soft spoken kid who loved to read. She remembers "playing board games with him (especially chess)." She said that the games "could last for many hours because he had to analyze every potential outcome of every potential move. Ken [as she calls him] was also extremely artistic. He could draw quite realistically and was musically inclined as well.

Books were part of Wally's life from a young age. Katie remembers that Wally often used to read to her. "One such time," she begins, "we were 'camping out' in a garage that had been made into a play area for us. He read the original and entire Boxcar Children story to me in one night. I loved that story and I loved that time together."

Wally's interest in books carried over into his time in high school. He volunteered in the library and it was "a sanctuary for me. A place I could go." Yet his interests in high school were wide spread and weren't just confined to books. Wally also participated in choir where he was a baritone, and was in several performances at The Village Players in Wolfeboro. He

remembers in one performance he got to hang from a light bar in the middle of the play. "It's really hard to carry a tune and remember your lines," he chuckles to himself. Wally also was part of the first ever boys' soccer team which scored the first ever goal at Wolfeboro High School. "I never missed a single day. It was a great experience," he says. Wally remem-



Wally at six months

bers the first goal as being a "rather epic recollection of high school."

In 1987 Wally met one of his current best friends working as a counselor at Camp Hale (Wally also worked at camp Belknap), Courtland Townes. He recalls a specific story from his camp days. "One day, I was about to go into town on my night off. I was dressed in street clothes and I walked onto the docks to chat with some of the counselors that were overseeing a swim class. Someone dared Wally to

push me into the water and he accepted. So as I'm standing there talking to him, he suddenly shoved me into the lake. As I climbed out of the water, I vowed to get him back! He was wary of me for awhile, but I patiently bided my time. Wally didn't go out on many dates, but he somehow managed to get a date with a young lady that worked at the Science Center. He was pretty excited about this date and got all dressed up. He looked so good that we called him down to the docks so that we could check out his outfit. He was well-dressed; he was wearing a nice cologne, etc. I complimented him on his appearance and then pushed him into the water and said, 'I told you I was going to get you back!'"

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**COLLEGE, TRAVEL AND WORK****Wally working at WUNH**

Wally's first job was much different than the job he holds at Oyster River. "When I graduated from high school, my first job was working in a 2nd rate department store as a store clerk," Wally begins. "My second job was making shoe soles in a plastic factory. My third job was a sailor on a historic tall ship. The difference between jobs 1 and 3 was a matter of one year. I didn't go directly into college, it took me a while to figure things out, but I figured it out." Wally is very fond of his experiences sailing on tall ships he recalls that "there's nothing quite as focusing as being on top a 100 foot mast, unfurling a flag. Your priorities are completely squared away."

He was involved in the outdoor education program, instructing rock climbing, white water and flat water canoeing. "I worked in the lower White Mountains for a lot of years and when I took a look at the financial situation I realized that that major (outdoor education) would condemn me to a life behind a desk managing people who are actually going out," he says. After this he closed his computer programming business which at the time he says, "I worked with machine shops. I was inside shops that made parts for the space shuttle and military helicopters, jet aircraft and so forth. It was a pretty amazing experience. I was traveling all over New England while I was trying to get my degree." After closing his business he picked up a job at NH Public Television, where he got involved with his audio visual work. After his run at NH Public Television was done, he took a job at Milford High School as an audio visual assistant and later became the director for the entire school district. "I designed and developed a studio production facility there which is still in use to this day. I can still bring up the floor plan. It's work that I'm very proud of," he says.

Not soon after, Wally had the opportunity to go for a master's degree at Suffolk University. He was part of a class called "Visonaries," through which he received a master's degree in documentary media and nonprofit manage-

ment. Through this experience he traveled to South America to make a documentary. He ended up only making \$25 off of. Yet the experience was worth more than the money according to Wally. He also did documentary work in Switzerland, Egypt and Israel. For one project he was documenting which started at UNH called "Elderhostel." He spent six weeks in Egypt and six weeks in Israel. He found two very different countries which showed strong connections to a major theme emerging from the cultures. He recalls that although Egypt is considered a "developing nation" they were "fabulous people with a lot of culture, very knowledgeable, very literate. So it was a major eye opener in a place that I thought could have basic, sad, impoverished people." Wally continues, "when you have pictures of Africa you don't first think of people with a great sense of humor. So it changed my perception. It made me realize that the news media has a product to sell. And if they can sell an impoverished Africa, then it's to someone's advantage that they do that." Israel was a different story. "All of these people are in what's considered a first world nation, industrialized, mechanized, they have all the benefits of technology that we have and in some cases more and surprisingly I found a very depressed, a very sad people," Wally says. Although he recalls his experience making documentaries as a terrific one, there aren't many jobs in the field, so Wally decided to go back to a school and teach video production.

Wally has also worked as a DJ at WUNH. World music and music that tends to speak to many cultures is Wally's preferred music choice. He admits to liking the occasional cheesy pop song as well. He ran for state representative (see State Representative section) and also owns a media group called Sweet Fern Media. Wally explains he chose the name because Sweet Fern is a plant that grows in rough areas. "It's sort of opportunistic. It's a rugged plant," he explains. "It sort of captures the spirit behind my web

**Wally in Egypt**

programming. I've not had a great deal of time to put into that project but it is one of the things that I do, and it ties up and puts a bow on all the media things I handle, including the video production material."

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE****Wally and his father**

Many people don't know that Wally ran to be a state representative in 2005. He ran on the platform of changing a districting plan that he felt was unconstitutional. Basically the Supreme Court made a law that changed districting so smaller towns like Durham wouldn't have their own representative and the votes from large towns would outweigh those of smaller towns in the new districts. Wally says, "all I was running for was a constitutional amendment saying that regardless of districting, there should be a representative in all of the towns in the district." Although he didn't win, Wally was content that he "was able to get word out about the amendment in my town and to some extent the state." He "helped them understand what the issue was and convince them that the Supreme Court was wrong."

**PHILOSOPHIES**

From my conversations with Wally, it is very evident that there is a strong collection of ideals behind the Wally we see smiling in the library every day. Through speaking with him I have only scratched the surface of the ethics that Wally operates by. Katie Keniston says that "Ken has not changed much from when he was a kid in terms of core values, interests and beliefs. He was and always will be an honest person who loves nature and is globally aware, concerned and involved in many ways. He has broadened out from his younger days and really seems in touch with who he is and what is important to him. He is true to himself."

So what can we learn from Wally? If you ask Wally's mother, Deb Keniston, she will say that Wally has taught her "that nothing is impossible if you are willing to work to achieve it." Wally has gained a lot of perspectives from his experiences in foreign

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*"Love is a commercialized theory that doesn't exist." -Marcela Dorfsman-Hopkins, Senior*



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countries. "I think it's important as the US to be very clear that we can't be looking down at other cultures and expect them to speak English," he explains. The Egyptians were far more receptive to him, even after he spent some time learning a half a dozen phrases in Arabic. "If we do [expect them to learn English] we are losing the benefits we have as a society. That's what's at risk."

Wally also believes that we can learn from our everyday experiences. "One of the reasons I'm at ORHS is there is no such thing as an average day," he explains. "There are different people, different students, teachers all with different needs and issues. I do like helping with new challenges, everyday there is a new challenge. I like the opportunity to turn those everyday challenges into opportunities for teaching and learning."

"Success to me-Life is not about the accumulation of things, it's about the collection of experiences, friends, I have worked hard to be successful from that perspective," Wally said. "If you don't have those, I'm not sure if the other things have value. I have a friend who says 'follow your bliss.' If you're a round peg don't try to pound yourself into a square hole. If you don't like blood why are you trying to be a doctor? People need to ask themselves this type of question all the time."

If I could pick one piece of advice from the interview I had with Wally, it would be the advice he gave to the students of Oyster River: "Examine who you are, what do you believe in, what interests you, do you what you love. If you do those things you don't have to worry about money. There's no sense in being the dullerest bulb on the Christmas tree. If you don't love what you do it will be a chore. The money won't be worth it. It will never be enough." "No one wants to feel that the only reason that they are important is because of a transaction. You know that 'do you want fries with that' mentality. I feel it's important to treat each person as a person. Recognize who they are, share yourself with them. Listen to what those people have to say. I'm not always good at that, but it's worth trying."



## STORIES

Although there are many stories dispersed throughout this article about Wally there are few that made their way to this section and can't be left out. Deb Keniston recalls a mother and son road trip as one of her favorite memories of Wally. "In 2004, Wally and I took a two week or so trip, traveling in his car. We visited and photographed the capitol building of each state we traveled through, and our route

was designed to take us past as many relatives as we could reach and visit. We talked, we laughed, we camped, we visited and as adults we got to know each other much better."

On a less serious note Katie Keniston recalls a story which is rooted in the foundation of sibling rivalry. Katie says that for as long as she can remember she and Wally competed with each other. "I knew Ken couldn't climb this one particular tree and somehow I convinced him it was easy enough to do," she begins. "With a great deal of pushing on my part, I got him up in the tree. Problem was, he was scared to death to get down."

I ended up running to the fire department, where our father happened to work, and begged one of the firemen to help get my brother out of the tree. My brother was mortified and I was gloating over my superior climbing skills. Boy did we get in trouble for that. I still think he'd be in that tree if I didn't run for help."

Katie is full of nice things to say about her brother. Having Wally as a brother is "like having a bad rash that won't go away," she says all in love. Yet Wally is truly highly regarded by those who are close to him. Courtland Townes speaks of what kind of friend Wally is. "He's a true friend and a high-quality individual. If I needed

him, I feel like he'd be there for me. He's proven that to me by his past actions."



**Top: Wally and his sister biking**  
**Bottom: Wally in a performance at the Village Players**





# BEING A CHILD SHOULDN'T HURT

## WHY CHILD ABUSE IS AN ISSUE WORTH DOING SOMETHING ABOUT

Danielle Walczak  
News Writer

You are just running a few errands for mom. At the grocery store as you open the glass door of the freezer case to grab a gallon of milk, you hear an aggravated grunt. You turn and through the fogged door of the freezer case you see a mom angrily shaking her child who looks to have dropped a gallon of milk which has spilt all over the floor. It was an honest mistake by the child but the child is getting more than their fair share of punishment. It's getting to the point where you feel uncomfortable. What would you do? Would you step in?

According to Childhelp.org 5.8 million children were involved in an estimated 3.2 million child abuse reports and allegations in 2007. Child abuse is a huge problem not only nationally but in New Hampshire as well. 3 million reports of child abuse are reported each year. 15,000 of these reports are from NH alone (dhhs.nh.gov). It is hard to deny that child abuse is an issue in our country, but many people feel helpless about how to stop the issue or stopping abuse in their own lives. So what can we do to help?

If you ask Mary Kishbaugh, Child Development teacher at ORHS, she would say education. "You aren't born to know how to raise kids. Education is number one," she explains. In fact ORHS students, as she makes clear, have a unique opportunity where as juniors and seniors they can take Childhood Development One and Two, it even counts as a running start college credit. Kishbaugh feels that "it's a great advantage and it applies to anyone who works with kids or parents."

Laurie Grant, preschool Director for ORCSD, is taking those first steps of education with the children themselves. "As part of the preschool curriculum, we sensitively teach them about safety: stranger danger, staying with mom/dad (trusted grow-up) when in public." She says they also talk about "personal space, talking with a trusted grown up if needed, etc. We develop relationships with children so if they need to talk with someone, they will more likely be comfortable talking with one of us."

Not only does she try and educate preschool students but she also tries to educate their parents, sharing notices of upcoming workshops and connecting families with support systems within the community if needed. "Part of this is educating people on general developmental milestones for young children so that development is as understood as possible," she says.

Danuta Richards, ORHS school nurse, says that she has stood up to a violent parent in a grocery store before. Many people feel uncomfortable trying to get help but Richards encourages that to get help one must find "a trusted person, who hopefully is an adult. It's safe to go to the school nurse or tell your teacher," she says. She later says that all teachers are required by state law to report any suspicion of abuse. "What I mostly do is when other people suspect it," she begins, "The kid is sent down to me to talk to. Initially what I do is assess, report and categorizes the injury then reports it to the DCYF (Department of Children, Youth and their Families). Then it's their decision, they may send a case worker to the house." Richards says it is her job to then check up on the situation.

Grant, who may be one of the teachers making a report to Richards, says she has had to do so in the past. "I have been working with young children for over 20 years and there have been just a few cases of suspected abuse. I immediately share the concerns with the school nurse and then make a report to DCYF as mandated for teachers," she says.

What about the children who are being abused who don't get noticed by a staff member at school? Kishbaugh encourages that children "find another adult they can confide in." She then says that "the other adult needs to report it to the state. The case will be assigned a social worker. The child may be removed from their home and will get counseling to help them develop healthy relationships." She says that "it will be very hard for them to trust others."

The bottom line is if you or someone you know is being abused, physically, emotionally or sexually, you must contact someone that can help you (see list of contacts in "Child Abuse Help Services" section.) According to NH Department of Health and Human Services, NH Law requires any person who suspects that a child under age 18 has been abused or neglected must report that suspicion immediately to DCYF.

Although Richards says she only makes about two reports a year she says "it's been unusual, but I'm not privy to everyone who has made a report in the school." Despite the small amount of reports in ORHS, it is still an important issue. Grant is quick to list the many effects of child abuse that are not only present in the baby's life but the many effects carry on into their adult life. "The effect of child abuse will vary from person to person. However this could include any one or more of the following" she begins. "Obvious physical harm delayed or impaired social and emotional development, ability to trust others, ability to feel safe in their own environment, difficulty establishing relationships and more," she states.

Kishbaugh says that abuse affects children in all aspects of life. "Physically, they may be unable to hold a job because of physical limitations, they may be unable to live independently, never have healthy relationships with adults or even abuse their own kids," she says. The best way we can prevent these things from happening in Kishbaugh's mind is to educate and "get involved in organizations."

"It is normal for a baby to cry three hours a day; some parents don't know how to deal with that," Kishbaugh says. "A lot of abuse happens when we expect more of children [then they can do]. We need to have expectations of what actually happens."

### Why our Byline Pictures are Cartoon Characters

Starting a few months ago many people in the Facebook community got a message saying: change your Facebook profile picture to a cartoon from your childhood. The goal? To not see a human face on Facebook until Monday, December 6th. Join the fight against child abuse and copy and paste to your status to invite your friends to do the same. This started a viral chain reaction of changed profile pictures across Facebook, sending a clear message: child abuse needs to stop. In honor of all those standing up against child abuse on Facebook, the staff of Mouth of the River has decided to change our byline pictures to our favorite cartoon characters.

Many media outlets have used the changing of Facebook profile pictures, as a way to open up a dialogue about what we as Americans can do to fight child abuse. On a blog called, "Changing the Way We Think about Prevention," supported by Prevent Child Abuse America, they ask what might something as simple as changing your Facebook profile picture do? The blog says "when an effort like this becomes part of the national chatter, encourages individuals and businesses to use this effort to raise funds on Facebook themselves, we need to take a moment and recognize that this an opportunity for dialogue, and this is an opportunity to raise awareness, because we can all learn more, we all can be messengers for this cause and ultimately we can all take action." (<http://preventchildabuseamerica.blogspot.com>)

### Child Abuse Help Services

The first step to getting help is to tell someone. Here is a list of contacts.

- Any school employee or adult that you trust
- Department of Children, Youth and their Families  
1-800- 894-5533
- Child Help USA 1-800-422-4453 (press 1 to talk to a hotline counselor)





**Alex Harling  
News Writer**

# MORE LIP DUBBING??

Friday the 17th of December, Oyster River High School participated in their first lip dub video.

The lip dub featured the songs, "ABC" by the Jackson 5, "Rock of Ages" by Def Leppard, and "Mr. Blue Sky" by Electric Light Orchestra. "I think it was a first good try," said Kathleen Young, the video production teacher. "It was really fun and for the short amount of time and the number of people involved it was pretty good."

When talk began to spread that a lip dub video would be taking place, students did not take the best of attitudes. "People thought it was cheesy," said Laura Rogers, ORHS Principal. "They didn't like the songs."

"I was kind of bummed," said Young, "there were lots of negative things being said." The lip dub was intended to be a project for the video production class. The lip dub would be good practice in organizing a big project and be a fun challenge for Young's video production class. The class chose the songs and was in charge of the project. "With all these things being said, the class got really discouraged" said Young. "But no matter what happened we

still had to do it."

A reason behind why the people were upset could've been due to the lack of information they received. Not only were students angry about the lip dub, but teachers also feared it may have been disruptive to

ing to do it again if I was asked," said Young. "If our school attempted to film another lip dub, it could be successful."

"A great way to pick songs for another video would be to set up a survey type thing such as survey monkey so the students could pick the songs they wanted," said Rogers, "(the students) don't realize that we just can't have songs that reference things such as sex, drugs, and alcohol."

There has been talk of a lip dub for the Senior Follies, but no one has confirmed the rumors. "I can't tell you, it's a secret," Jeff Johnson said, "but if we do one it will fit our grade well and have plenty of humor."

Johnson was not very happy with the first lip dub saying it made him "want to hurt little children."

If another lip dub should occur at Oyster River High School, it would happen during the spring. "Filming during our focus group times on a block day would be great," said Rogers. "Filming outside in the spring would make our video look a lot better too." If our school was to do this again, hopefully more people will be willing to participate. A lip dub video is a great chance for people to see how great of a school Oyster River High School really is and to get your face on YouTube.

You can currently view Oyster River's lip dub along with other school videos online at [vimeo.com](http://vimeo.com).

**"NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENED,  
WE STILL HAD TO DO IT."**



**"STUDENTS DON'T REALIZE THAT  
WE CAN'T HAVE SONGS THAT  
REFERENCE DRUGS, ALCOHOL, OR  
SEX."**

school.

Another Lip Dub could be in the future for Oyster River High School. "I would be will-



**RUMOR HAS IT, ANOTHER LIP DUB  
COULD BE TAKING PLACE IN THE  
SPRING AND THE SENIORS MAY HAVE  
ONE FOR FOLLIES.**

## POPULAR LIP DUBS ON YOUTUBE

- Firework by Magnolia High School of Texas
- Don't Stop Believin' by Bloomington High School
- I Gotta Feelin' by UQAM of Quebec
- Footloose by Warsaw School of Economics of Poland
- Summer of 69' by HEC of Montréal
- Shorewood Lip Dub
- Boston University Lip Dub
- Flagpole Sitta by Harvey Danger
- Bloomington HS, Pass it On
- Emerson College Lady Gaga





Emily Dube  
Features Writer

# CLASS OF 2011 VS. CLASS OF 2021

## THINGS HAVE CHANGED...

Picture this. You're sitting in a nice restaurant. It's a Thursday night out with the family. Everyone's talking, discussing their recent lives - doing the whole family dinner thing, except for one girl.

Her jacket is covering her head so she can

belts, customized Barbie seats, a convertible roof and working doors. Oh and just by the way, there's a real life version too. This stylish new vehicle is the perfect way for Barbie and her friends to cruise around town, leaving behind the blue Jeep and pink convertible that Cassie Broughton fondly remembers.

"I had a blue Jeep, with no top and no doors. It didn't really do anything; I just put my Barbies in and wheeled it around. I also had a pink convertible. That was cool too," recalls Broughton.

Although these cars do pretty much the same things, the main selling point of the new FIAT 500 is the "dazzling design", something that Broughton's cars didn't necessarily possess. Don't get me wrong, I love the pink and I'm a fan of Jeeps, but be real...FIAT vs. generic convertible. Who would win?

By now, Barbie is probably starting to sound ridiculous. So let's move on to something a little more...unisex. After all, it's not just the girls' side of things that has changed.

The Nintendo DSi XL has not one, but two cameras on the device. After you take pictures, you can tweak them and draw on them with a built in Nintendo Photoshop. Then, using DSi XL's built in wi-fi, you can email the pictures to your friends or utilize the built in SD card slot to save the pictures. Afterwards, use the wi-fi to download exclusive games and applications. Utilizing the dual screen technology, the DSi XL has

on them with a built in Nintendo Photoshop. Then, using DSi XL's built in wi-fi, you can email the pictures to your friends or utilize the built in SD card slot to save the pictures. Afterwards, use the wi-fi to download exclusive games and applications. Utilizing the dual screen technology, the DSi XL has

a sound studio where you can record and mix your own sounds with the latest and greatest microphone and speakers. There is also a feature called "pictochat" that allows you to have AIM style conversations, but you can also draw your own pictures and send them to your friends using the stylus and touch screen.

The features of DSi XL that have been illustrated are some of the major selling points presented on Nintendo's website for the device. As for the Gameboy Color, the main selling point was in fact, the color screen and the variety of colors that it was sold in. It was sold standard in berry, kiwi, grape, dandelion and teal and 15 other "specialty" colors that varied by country. The Gameboy color could show up to 56 different colors on screen at a time. You could also tint the whole color palette by pressing a combination of the directional pad and the action buttons at the Gameboy logo start up screen. Still cool, but definitely different. Overall, it's a different world. While we teenagers all have our thumbs glued to our phones, texting a million words a minute, the kid world is evolving too. Mattel, Nintendo and other toy makers have really stepped it up a notch, and taken the kid world to a whole new level. What will they think of next?

Photos Courtesy of Google Images



The Real Barbie edition of the FIAT 500.



Barbie's brand new FIAT 500.

has an LCD screen in her back so that you can watch while you record and play back your videos. But the fun doesn't stop there because Barbie also has a USB port in her back so that you can upload your videos to your computer, and share them with your friends.

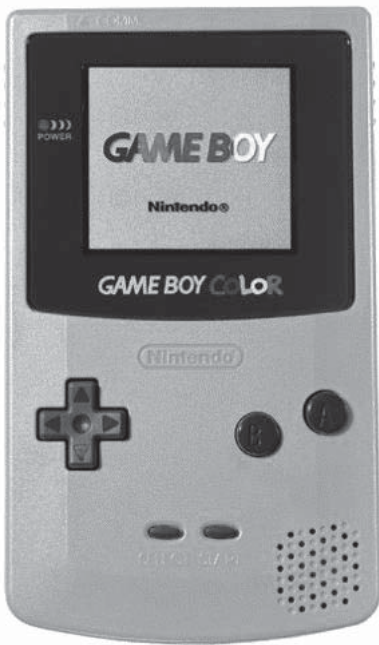
The only thing that the dolls really have in common would be that they have one main theme or focus. Other than that, they are completely different. I mean, we went from lip-gloss to video cameras...that's crazy right there.

Beyond the actual girl, who is she without her accessories? We don't all have the same types of accessories; make up, CDs, iPods, super warm mittens...you never know. But Barbie is one girl who is known for her accessories. For example: her car. On Barbie's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, she will receive a FIAT 500 at her party in Milan. The Barbie edition FIAT 500 is being sold with a new edition Barbie in an outfit that matches her pink and white car. The vehicle features working seat

Barbie;  
"There were four of them that came together, and they all had their own dorm room set ups. It was really fun."

For some contrast, let's explore the new "Video Barbie" from Mattel. Barbie sports a stylish pink and zebra print jacket, and denim capris. She also has a special necklace that is not only a necklace, but also a video camera.

Worried about shooting accurately? Don't worry. Barbie

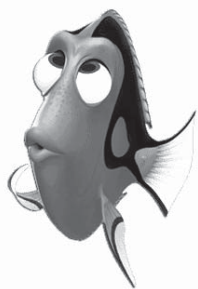


Gameboy Color



Nintendo DSi XL



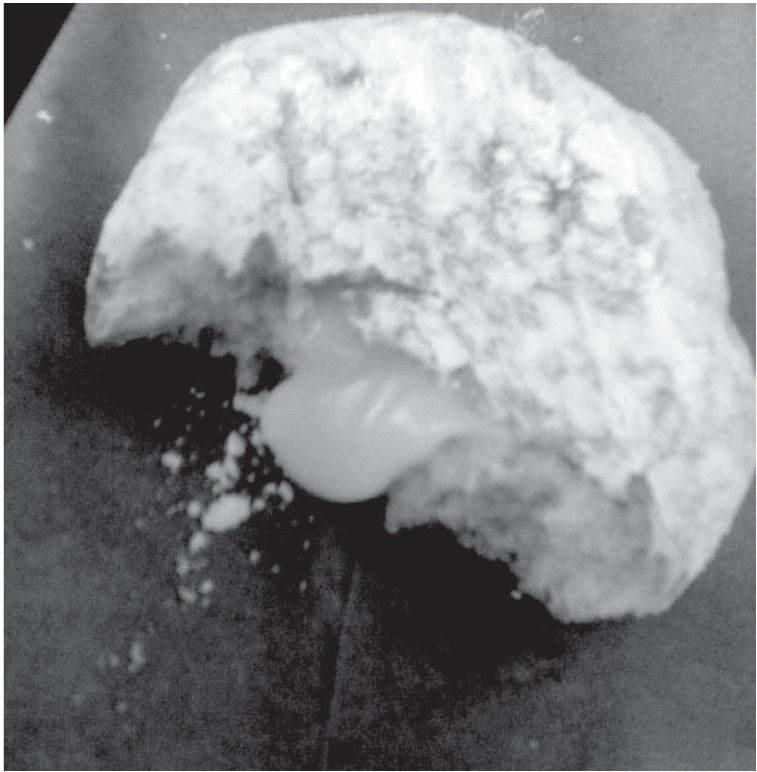


Emily Healy  
Features Writer

# FATTENING AND DELICIOUS

Did Valentine’s Day once again find you alone and loveless? Did you find yourself eating your feelings with comfort food that has more grams of fat in one serving than your entire weekly recommended value? With the cold months of winter dragging on, fattening and delicious foods taste better than ever. Don’t worry about your awful eating habits or increasing pant size. It’s only to be expected. This review was created to help you make better choices when deciding which heart attack-inducing indulgence you should stuff your face with next.

## Thumbs Down



### VANILLA KREME DONUT from DUNKIN DONUTS

**Description:** A donut sprinkled with powdered sugar and filled with tons of vanilla-flavored filling.

**Fattening Factor:** One of the most fattening donuts on the menu, this donut has 380 calories and 23 grams of fat.

**The Experience:** This donut wasn’t good. The filling was a little pudding-y and every time I bit into it, I accidentally inhaled a little powdered sugar, which was pretty uncomfortable. Senior Grace MacDonald, who refused to even try a bite of it, took one look at the donut and immediately said, “You’re going to eat 380 calories of disgusting?”

**Level of Discomfort after Eating:** Moderate. It made me feel a little sick.

**Final Verdict:** If you’re a donut fanatic, you may love the Vanilla Kreme Donut. I don’t judge. But if you’re just looking for something fattening and delicious to eat, you’re better off with a pint of Ben & Jerry’s or a deep-fried Twinkie. This donut isn’t worth the fat.

### THE VOLCANO BOX from TACO BELL

“It’s making me sweat and cry a little,” is not the review you’d hope for if you were an employee of Taco Bell. However, this is how Senior Lauren Coryea felt about halfway through her “Volcano Box” from Taco Bell.

**Description:** The Volcano Box is a giant meal that includes a Volcano Taco, Volcano Double Beef Burrito, a Crunchy Beef Taco, Cinnamon Twists and a large drink.

**Fattening Factor:** Altogether, the Volcano Box contains about 1860 calories and 74 grams of fat.

**The Experience:** The first few bites of your meal will be delicious. Mexican fast food seems hard to beat. However, about a quarter of the way through, be prepared to hit a wall. This is when the fake cheese will start to congeal. “I don’t like cheese, but they take it to a whole other level,” said Senior Emily Rodgers. The reality of what you’re eating sets in. The food baby begins to grow. If you can walk normally after eating this meal, you’re very unique.

**Level of Discomfort after Eating:** Extremely high to severe. You’re almost guaranteed to have many long hours with that synthetic Mexican crap just sitting like a rock in your stomach.

**Final verdict:** This meal was definitely fattening, but with only the tiniest hint of delicious. “The first couple bites were good, then it got so disgusting,” stated Rodgers.

*“It’s making me sweat and cry a little.” -Lauren Coryea*



Emily Rodgers demonstrating her disgust for Taco Bell.



Thumbs Up



DOREOS from ROCKY’S

**Description:** Rocky’s Burgers in Newmarket is famous for their massive, imaginative hamburger creations. However, they also have a love for extremely creative desserts and the Doreo is no exception. The Doreo is simply a deep-fried Oreo, sprinkled with a little powdered sugar.

**Fattening Factor:** 80 calories and 3.5 grams of fat in each Doreo

**Experience:** As you bite into the puffy fried dough around the slightly soggy Oreo, don’t be alarmed when it’s not quite what you’d expect. You need an open mind to fully grasp the interesting textures and flavors of chocolate, fried dough and vanilla. The best part is that the cream inside the Oreo is a slightly cooler temperature than the rest, creating a unique sensation.

**Level of Discomfort after Eating:** Low. But if you’re having a Doreo after eating a Rocky’s Burger, the discomfort factor increases significantly.

**Final Verdict:** The Doreo is not for everyone. Max Werman, a senior at Berwick Academy, describes the Doreo as a “ball of hell”. With its interesting texture and taste combination, only true lovers of fattening and delicious foods will really appreciate the goodness of an Oreo nestled inside a bed of fried dough. But you should definitely try it at least once. And remember, one is the perfect amount.

THE BACONATOR from WENDY’S

**Description:** The Baconator consists of up to three ¼-pound hamburgers, about 8 strips of bacon, and several slices of American cheese, topped off with mayo and ketchup. Lauren Coryea recalls, “It was a lot of bacon.”

**The Experience:** “It was really delicious,” says Emily Rodgers. “The last five bites were gross, but I had to finish it.” As it is with most giant fast food specials, you’ll start to feel it right towards the end. Overall, the taste is great, and the stomach ache afterwards is well worth it.

**Fattening Factor:** A double-patty Baconator has 980 calories and 63 grams of fat

**Level of Discomfort after Eating:** High. “It was kind of delicious but also made me feel horrible,” says Coryea.

**Final Verdict:** If you love burgers, cheese and bacon, this delicious heart attack on a bun is perfect. Pair it with a large drink for the inevitable thirst that follows and you’re good to go.



Photo courtesy of Google Images

*“It’s like an explosion of chocolate and caramel swirled in my mouth!”-Bridget Regan*

MILKY WAY MOCHA from BNG

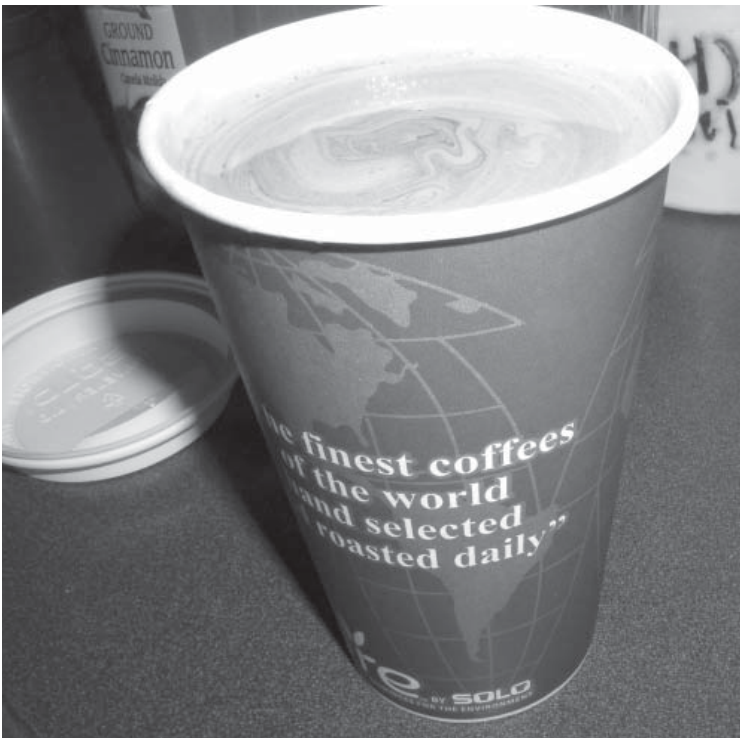
**Description:** 2 cups of whole milk, half a cup of cocoa powder and sugar and a shot of caramel. The Milky Way Mocha is a winter special at BNG that will make you feel all warm and fuzzy inside.

**Fattening Factor:** A large Milky Way Mocha has about 500 calories and 18 grams of fat.

**Level of Discomfort after Eating:** Moderate to low. Since it’s a drink, you’ll consume it pretty slowly, but you will definitely feel a little fatter afterwards.

**Final Verdict:** “It’s like an explosion of chocolate and caramel swirled in my mouth!” says Bridget Regan enthusiastically. The Milky Way Mocha is an excellent choice for a cold winter morning. Get a small, because that’s all you’ll need to warm you up.

By the way...the most fattening drink at BNG is actually one that is only available in the summer. The Frozen Mocha, a favorite warm-weather treat, tops all other BNG specialty drinks with a whopping 1,200 calories in a large and 800 in a small. A little frightening, right?





# PLAYING IN A TRAVELIN' BAND



**Alex Harling  
Guest Writer**

Three more hours to go until the next show, been ten hours on the road. There's a two hour gig waiting for them

when they arrive. That's the life of a traveling band.

Bands can appear differently to their fans, whether they are performing or you are listening to one of their albums. The local band Truffle has been performing locally since 1985. Truffle has been a major contribution to the live music scene throughout New England.

Never having two shows a like, Truffle makes each of their shows unique, exciting, and original with different set lists each night. The band provides a mix of funky riffs, kicking bass lines, and catchy lyrics. The music is very upbeat and has a slight country feel. Truffle can be compared with the likes of the Grateful Dead, John Hiatt, and even John Denver.

I was lucky enough to sit down with Truffle's lead singer and guitarist, Dave Gerard, and bassist Dave Bailey and learn what it's

like touring, spending life on the road and living their dream as musicians. We sat down in Fury's Publick House in Dover, New Hampshire, where they were playing a duo show.

This show was more of a warm up show before a big gig at the Foobar in Portsmouth on New Year's Eve where they would be performing with the full Truffle band.

The most important time in a band's career is their beginning. "We first formed in 1984," said Gerard. "We got our first gig in 1985 and finally signed to November/Sony Records in 1994, which is an independent label from New York," Bailey said. "Originally we were called Savoy Truffle, but we shortened it to just Truffle."

Back in the days when the band was Savoy Truffle, they would tour for nine months at a time playing in most of the U.S., just shy of a few states going from Portland, Maine all the way to Seattle. "Nowadays we only go as far as

Virginia. We also play in Colorado and the Virgin Islands."

Touring is important, especially to build a fan base as a band is starting out. "You've got to do it old school to build a following. Nowadays it's not as important in this virtual world, but you still need to get out there and play,"



**The duo delivers excellent live entertainment. Gerard on the left and Bailey on the right.**

said Bailey. Beyond building fans, touring also helps a band with inspira-

tion. "Being out their touring helps with your creativity and brings you closer as a band, gives you ideas for songs. There's no shortage of inspiration out there, you just need to find it."

While touring is essential to the life of a band,

being on the road can occupy most of the band member's lives. "It's a lot of fun touring, but it's also exhausting," Ge-

rad said, "Although it's adventurous there are a lot of pros and cons and you miss out on things."

Bands acquire a lot of stories from being on the road as often as they are. Gerard recalled one story that ended in jail. "We were driving through Northern New Mexico in a van pulling a trailer. The van could only go about 2 and half hours on a tank of gas with the load

it was carrying. We hit a snow storm and we needed to find the closest gas station. One of us thought of calling the police to figure out where to find shelter. The trooper we called

*"We all awoke to state troopers kicking us in the ribs telling us it's time to leave."*

suggested staying the night in the county jail. I don't think any of us slept that night. We all awoke to state troopers kicking us in the ribs, telling us it's time to leave."

Getting along with your band is similar to getting along with your family. The members of Truffle have been together longer then they have been together with their wives. "It takes a lot of respect," said Bailey, "and we understand each other." Gerard said, "We've been touring for a quarter of a century together, and we like

it."

The members of Truffle perform a variety of shows. Some of them perform solo sets but there is also, "Electric Truffle" which features the whole ensemble, "Acoustic Truffle" which is self explanatory, and "Duo Truffle" which

features Gerard and Bailey.

Truffle's touring has slowed down since the early days of the band. Each of the members perform at least three shows a week in the

different ensembles.

"With other commitments and families, we have

to be able to shift gears pretty quickly to prepare for the show," Gerard said. "We have to rely on setting up our gear just to get in tune for the show."

What does the future hold for Truffle? It is unknown at this time. "We'll be doing this till the arthritis kicks in," Bailey said with a laugh. Gerard's motto is, "Do this as long as we can

do it." Truffle continues to write and perform more songs and make more fans wherever the band may perform.

During the summer, Truffle performs a lot of outside free shows that are all age friendly. Truffle is a great way to catch some live, local entertainment, check out one of their shows and you'll be sure to have a great time.



**Dave Gerard singing his heart out for an anxious crowd**



**"There's no shortage of inspiration out there, you just need to find it."**

## TRUFFLE'S TOP 5 TUNES

- 1) Burning Bush
- 2) Gorilla on a Highway
- 3) Listen to Me
- 4) Lost Dog Blues
- 5) Soul Roll





**Brenna Cahill**  
**Features Writer**

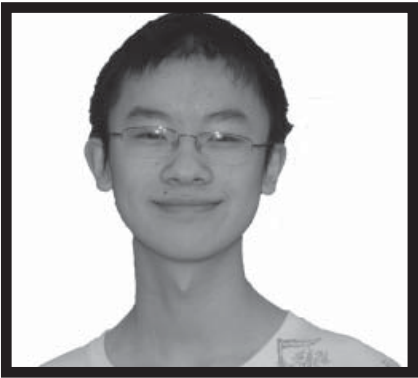
This issue I am highlighting two individuals from the sophomore class who you should know. Katie Sylvia is a sweet and bubbly young woman who seems to really enjoy living life. While David Chen is a little quieter, he is a kind and very humorous young man. Here are their stories.

# PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW

## KATIE SYLVIA



## DAVID CHEN



**Nickname:**

“My mom gave me the nickname Birdie when I was a little kid, and no one knows why.” Sylvia continues, “soon my friends started calling me it, and then my teachers.” Now Sylvia says that “only a few people still call me Birdie.”



**Are you musically inclined?**

“I play the saxophone and I love it. It’s a huge stress relief and I definitely recommend people to play an instrument if they don’t already.”

**What is the weirdest thing you have ever done?**

“Well, one time, my friends and I got dressed in old prom dresses, had our hair done fancy, put on some heels, and...went to McDonalds, just because.”

**Sports:**

“One of my favorite things to do is to play volleyball. I had been playing soccer for seven years and just wanted to try something new. In 8th grade, I finally dropped soccer and tried out for volleyball. I knew absolutely nothing about the game, but I learned so much my first year at Great Bay.”



**How do you feel about Valentine’s Day?**

“I love Valentine’s Day! I just love the whole feeling of it, everyone seems so happy and ‘lovie dovie’.”

**Last thoughts?**

“My two friends that I’ve known the longest are Shelby Dillman and Megan Mennelle. They’re awesome, and we’re all kind of a package deal.”

**Nickname:**

“One of my nicknames is ‘Secret Asian Man’.” Chen explains that “‘Secret Asian Man’ is referred to ‘Secret Agent Man’, and all I remember is that the same seniors gave me that name.”

**Are you musically inclined?**

“I’ve played to violin since I was six, so about ten years, and I don’t really enjoy it as much as I had when I was little. The songs became harder and more time and effort was required to play the song. I’ve recently started piano. I felt that since I’ve had many years of music experience, being able to play a piano would be a nice experience to have.”

**What is the weirdest thing you have ever done?**

“I use to figure skate. Yes, I’m very ashamed of it. I was basically forced by my parents for three years to do it because they felt I should do something related to balance. On the end of the 3rd year, going into the 4th, I broke my leg from skating. I was lucky because it almost required surgery, because the bone almost broke completely in half. The best part of it though, was I had to stop skating for the rest of the year. From that year and onwards, I’ve stopped skating because I didn’t want to do it and I made up an excuse by saying I was ‘afraid to break my leg again’. I still haven’t regretted lying to my parents about that.”

**Sports:**

“One of my favorite activities by far is badminton. As stereotypical as it may be for me to play this sport, I enjoy it. My dad, when he was little, played badminton with his dad all the time and to this day he tries to play as much as he possibly can. When I was little my dad introduced to me badminton one day at a tournament he was at, and I decided to give it a shot.”

**How do you feel about Valentine’s Day?**

“Valentine’s Day is pretty pointless. It’s a time for flower companies and chocolate companies to make more money off people. Though many people do feel it’s a good time to share expressions to their girlfriend/boyfriend, it’s still pointless because people can do that anytime of the year.” Now giving it a second thought, Chen gives his opinion a 180. “I think it’s good to have a day of the year to express feelings. If every day were to be the same, it wouldn’t be as special.”

**Last thoughts?**

“I feel that I should do everything I can when I’m younger because when I get older I may not have the time to do the things I wish I had done.”

Clip Art photos courtesy of Google Images





**Brenna Cahill**  
**Features Writer**

# BROMANCE

## FRIENDSHIP IS IN THE AIR

feel the stress of the 'love season'. If you lack a loved one this year, have no fear, for a bromance may be near.

Yes, the one line rhyming phrase is a little rough and a bit of a stretch. But the main idea is that this February, don't worry so much about a romantic relationship, but rather be thankful for the incredible friendships you already have. Although a 'Bromance' technically pertains only to males, really the same goes for females as well.

Bromances are a new trend that has been sweeping the nation within the past several years. Whether they be documented in films such as "I Love You Man" or in any tabloid ever conceived, pop culture has found the new 'it thing'. Bromances fascinate the minds of many, because they are a way for men to show great amounts of affection without the fear of being misjudged as being gay. No longer is it only close female friend-

As Valentine's Day comes and goes, those who are not involved in a romantic relationship may

ships in the public eye.

Two of the most notable bromances that walk the halls of Oyster River High School are that of the 'Lee Crew' boys and the practical and fine arts of Mike Troy (Industrial Technology) & Tim Lawrence (Fine Arts).

*Urban Dictionary defines a Bromance as "the complicated love and affection shared by two straight males."*

The 'Lee Crew' (LC) is a self named group of seven high school senior boys who have bonded together since the sixth grade. The group is the pride and joy of the town of Lee. Al-

though the group did not become the complete seven until their eighth grade year at Oyster River Middle School, the young men have established a friendship that will withstand the test of time. LC member, Joe Bennett questions, "Why would we be torn apart? That has never, and will never happen...we are just a big, fat Bromance." That is not to say

that the group members do not confront each other from time to time. Bennett comments that "we can battle for days on end, especially me and Adam, we can argue about anything. But in the end it never matters."

Brad Burke, a member of Lee Crew, urges that "we all have other friends and its nothing weird like a cult. We aren't against having other friends. It is just that Lee Crew are the friends that seem to always stick around." Senior, Evan Shultz, explains that "they are always together, but they are easy to be around and not up tight like you would think."

Lee Crew becomes closer with each adventure and sleep over they participate in. Member,

Chris Walker, shares that "there is something about Jake's house and his red barn that makes us real close. It doesn't actually matter where we are or what we are doing, we can always have a good time together." Burke agrees that there is never a shortage of laughs and good times, "Adam always seems the just go nuts and then he does something hilarious and after, we have a new story."

Jake Baver, a LC member, expressed the true relationship of the Lee Crew boys, "we are brothers. We may not be biologically related but we really are brothers." Fellow Lee Crew member, Alex Hennessy, agrees with Baver stating, "brotherhood is probably the best word to describe us."

*"Adam always seems the just go nuts and then he does something hilarious and after, we have a new story." - Brad Burke*

Unlike Lee Crew, the friendship between Troy and Lawrence is split over how they feel about the word 'Bromance'. Mike Troy

asks, "can't two men be great friends without anyone trying to put a weird name on it?" Even though he dislikes the label, he does admit that "I consider him to be one of my brothers. I grew up with five brothers and now Lawrence is my sixth." Troy goes on to say "I have always trusted him, I can count on him just like family." Troy sternly added that "I don't have a relationship with anyone that I cannot trust."

Tim Lawrence is less confused about the labeling of friendships and he feels that "people can say whatever they want, I am simply lucky to have such a great friend." In fact, Lawrence feels so strongly about this great friendship that he said, "he is more like my brother than any of my biological brothers." And brotherhood lasts forever.

*"He is more like my brother than any of my biological brothers." - Tim Lawrence*



On 'Twin Day' at Oyster River, art teacher, Tracy Bilynsky (far left) was twins with Mike Troy, sporting the famous 'Troy-stache' while art teacher, Maria Rosi (far right) dressed as fellow art teacher Tim Lawrence.



Above Joe Bennett and Alex Hennessy.

Four Lee Crew members annually enjoy sledding in their favorite year-round hangout spot, The Sandpit.

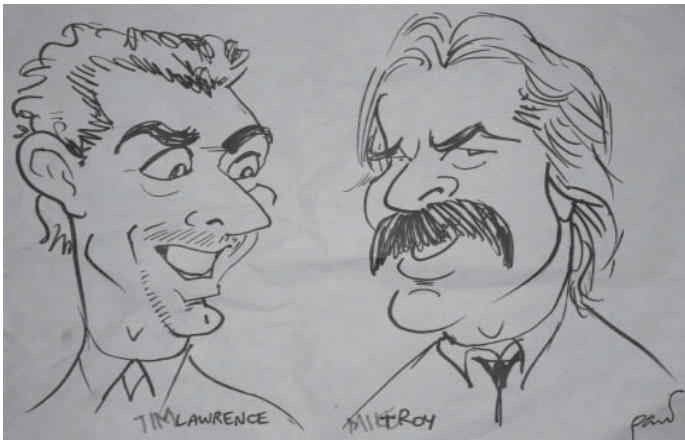
Below Jake Baver and Brad Burke.



### HOW IT ALL BEGAN

#### Lee Crew-

During their seventh grade school year in the Oyster River District, the young boys of Lee Crew were going through a normal year of school. Bennett shared that "we had heard of the 'Lee Unit' group in the high school (a compilation of 2007 individuals) and thought it was weird that they had named their group. So we kind of decided to make fun of them and thus, 'Lee Crew' was created." LC member, Jake Baver adds that, "we had a 'turf war' over Lee and more specifically the sand pit. Because they (Lee Unit) were older, they thought they could muscle us out, but we figured things."



A caricature of Tim Lawrence and Mark Troy, drawn by a former art student.

#### Troy and Lawrence-

The friendship between these two men began as many other friendships begin; through common interests. Troy agrees by stating that "it was very easy for us to become friends because we are both in the fine/practical arts at the same school, and we both have kids around the same age. We also both like motorcycles and even had the same motorcycle at one point, and really we can both tolerate each other."

Love is... "that warm, tingly teeling." -John Spinney, Junior



FAVORITE MEMORIES

Tim Lawrence



Tim Lawrence recalls his favorite memory with his other half sharing that it was “when I took my kids camping with Troy’s kids right near the Canadian border. They were so young and it was a great time having all of the kids together. There were seven of them and they were all very close in age.” Lawrence remembers the majestic moment when “we saw a bald eagle, it was the first time that we all had seen a bald eagle.” But probably the most memorable event of the trip was when “Troy was still sleeping and the kids and I put a Sesame Street blanket and kiddy toys next to him and took a picture.” Lawrence smirks that he “has used it as black mail before.”

Mark Troy



Mark Troy’s favorite memory helps to reveal the truth about why the embarrassing camping picture of him was taken. Troy drifts back many years and begins. At the campsite close to the Canadian border, “My son messed his diaper,” Troy blatantly shares, “and Lawrence made fun of how my children were ‘less advanced’ because they had yet to be potty-trained. To get back at his wisecrack, I put it (the dirty diaper) into a plastic bag and put the bag on his car mirror. Once he walked to his car a few hours later he found the prank and decided to ‘give it back to me’. That is when Lawrence took the bag with the dirty diaper in it and shoved it under the driver’s seat. Since we were at a family camp, we were not using the cars that we drove up in. About a week later when I opened my car door, you can image what I discovered,” Troy said as he pitched his nose shut with two of his fingers. “The diaper had been in my car, fermenting in the sun for days;

it was disgusting. That is when I knew I had to get back at Lawrence, and it needed to be good.” With a weasel like smile, Troy described what happened next. “Once we got back home and settled into school again, I hatched a brilliant plan. I strung a wire from my room, all the way down to his room and then attached a buzzer to the end of it, in the ceiling, right above his desk. The end that was back in my room just needed to be touched by a battery and you could hear the buzzer sound all the way from his room. I would sound the buzzer at different times on different days, completely randomly, and he had no idea what was going on. He had his students always listening to see if it would happen again. He went to the maintenance staff, the computer/ technical staff, and even the assistant principal’s secretary. I had to reveal myself after about two months and he was furious. He chased me through the school and through my shop until we both gave up and called it even.”

Jake Baver



“One time when there was no electricity, and incident called ‘Icy Stick’ happened.” Ignoring the request for more detail, Baver simply stated that “it is what it is.”

Brad Burke



“Adam loves pickles, he loves eating them all the time. One night we were up in Joe’s room and there was a jar of pickles that only had the juice left in it. Adam decided to drink the juice after we warned him not to. After he chugged the juice we all left him in Joe’s room. When we came back, he was curled on the floor saying his stomach felt like it ‘was filled with rocks’.”

Alex Hennessy



“Whenever we have a sleep over, there never seems to be enough beds or couches, so we created our own way of dealing with that,” explains Hennessy. “We call it ‘cater-people’. We all sit on a couch in our own sleeping bags and we end up looking like caterpillars.”

Joe Bennett



“The night Adam went crazy. Freshman year we skipped the Homecoming Dance and set up lights to play World Cup (soccer) all night long.” As the game went on, Bennett continues, “He (Goodwin) disappeared for a while into the darkness. When he finally reappeared, he was wearing his shorts as a shirt and then he proceeded to chase us around with a wooden stake. He also continued to repeatedly jump into the bushes.” Bennett pleads that “I wish I could show you a video of this because my words cannot do the insanity justice—Adam lost it.”

Joseph Fletcher



At one of their many sleepovers, Fletcher recalls how “we were all in Alex’s room when Adam fell asleep early. He was on the couch so we all thought it would be funny if I (mooned) his face. I ended up doing it three times before he woke up.” And with a smile on his face Fletcher adds that “Adam was so mad, he wouldn’t stop chasing me around the house.”

Adam Goodwin



“One summer on the Fourth of July, we decided to walk to Walmart. We left Lee after midnight and ended up at the Epping Walmart at 5:00 am, going through back roads. Everything was closed so we started walking back when police cars started to drive up to us. I tried to dive into a bush on the side of the road but my crotch of my pants got caught on a reflector pole. I finally got down which revealed a huge rip in my pants.”

Chris Walker



“It was the day after (a get together at a fellow classmate’s house) in the summer. I was feeling pretty awful that morning and some of the guys decided we should go out for breakfast at Young’s. I don’t know why, but for some reason I was so excited to eat breakfast. When I was ordering the Summit, I started celebrating really hard. I was actually going crazy with excitement. The waitress said to us that she had ‘never seen someone so excited over his breakfast before’.”







## Katie Burzon Features Writer

Mayhem. Confusion. Chaos. Pandemonium. This is what a many people are currently describing will happen on December 21, 2012. According to many people, on this fateful day, the world as we know it will come to an end.

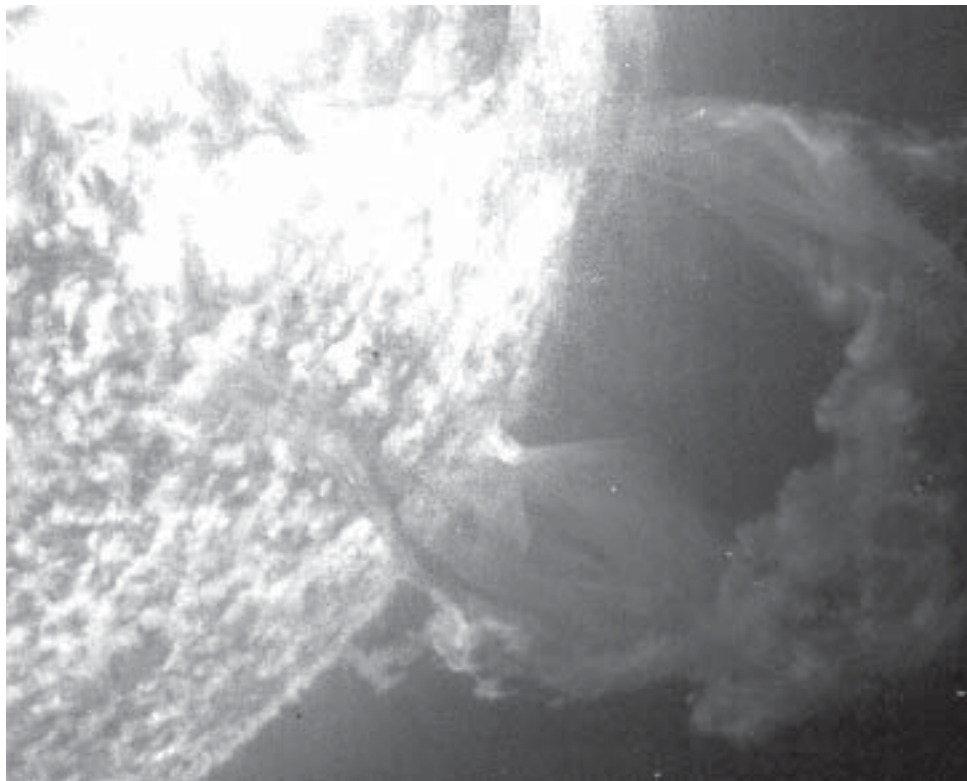
On December 12th, UNH hosted seminar on 2012. The class was run by Ed Barnhart, an Mayan excavator, has been researching Mayan culture for many years, and one of his ever-growing expedition has been researching the apocalypse hype of 2012.

"Everyone loves a good apocalypse," says Barnhart, who believes that there won't be any huge apocalyptic events, as many people, websites and TV show are predicting.

Barnhart explains the 2 main ideas people are having about the whole 2012 ordeal. "It's all either catastrophe, such as disaster and destruction, or enlightenment, like something good will happen that will in turn benefit our population," explains Barnhart.

The catastrophe side has to do with more of the destructive properties of something like an apocalypse. One of the many rumors is that there will be big solar flares that will eat up and destroy the earth. "Well," says Barnhart, "It's actually very unlikely to happen and hurt us." The biggest damage solar flares can cause is very minimal." Barnhart explains that the only thing the solar flares might affect are the satellites in space. "But even through the damage the solar flares

poles will flip. The believers of 2012 believe that the force of the magnetic poles flipping will cause the earth to be torn apart. According the History Channel, Decoding the Past: Doomsday 2012: End of Days, the magnetic poles are expected to "Flip north and south poles, causing worldwide disaster." According to the History Channel, this includes earth-



**An example of the monstrous solar flares which are said to eat up the Earth on December 21st, 2012.**

*This stellar picture is courtesy of Google Images.*

quakes and tsunamis, causing "the ultimate planetary catastrophe." However Barnhart explains how most (if not all) of what the History Channel is feeding its viewers is false. "Even through all the hype," Barnhart says, "the poles have flipped multiple times before." Barnhart explains that it's a very slow process and takes 10,000 of years to happen. Meaning even if it does happen, nothing will be greatly affected.

The other events expected to happen are not apocalyptic at all, but are events of enlightenment. "Many people believe that we will have 'harmonic convergence'," Barnhart explains. Believers of harmonic convergence, think that during 2012, harmonic convergence will cleanse the earth, and destroy the world's false structures of separation. Meaning most negative or

bad vibes on earth will be eliminated. To the believers of 2012, this means big changes will happen. However to non-believers of 2012, the global consciousness has always been coming, and there isn't going to be a "sudden consciousness".

Many people believe the whole Mayan calendar 2012 idea is a big hoax. "I don't think it'll actually happen," says ORHS Junior Jasmine Buckley. "I think it's just going to be like every other rumored apocalypse, it just won't happen." This seems to be what many skeptical people are saying about 2012 hype, including Barnhart himself.

Barnhart doesn't believe in the whole idea the media is trying to sell. During his seminar he references the recently made movie "2012" and he talks about how no day in the year 2012 will ever be like the events portrayed in the movie. "The movie '2012'," he says, "is a 3 hour movie of total fic-

tion." Once again Hollywood is trying to feed of the feeble minds of the average human.

However for some people like ORHS Sophomore, Nathaniel Spence, the media has changed their ideas about the events of 2012. "I spend too much time watching the History Channel early in the morning," admits Spence, who has beliefs that something will happen during the year 2012, not necessarily directly related or due to the Mayans. "I absolutely don't believe that any events during the year 2012 will be due to the Mayans or Aztecs," says Spence. "We shouldn't be blaming anything on them." Spence believes that if anything happens in 2012 it will be only a "small puff".

"If anything big happens, like the world getting eaten up by the sun," says Spence. "It will happen way after I'm long gone."

The one thing everyone can agree on is the fact that if they knew the world was ending, they would spend their last moments with the people they love. Buckley says that on 2012 she'll be spending time with her family "just in case all the rumors are true." Spence also agrees, "On December 12th, 2012, I'll be with my friends."

The whole idea of 2012 is very debatable, whether it be that it will happen or not, no one is really sure about anything. The only thing everyone can be certain about is that through all the rumors, no one will actually know until that very day.



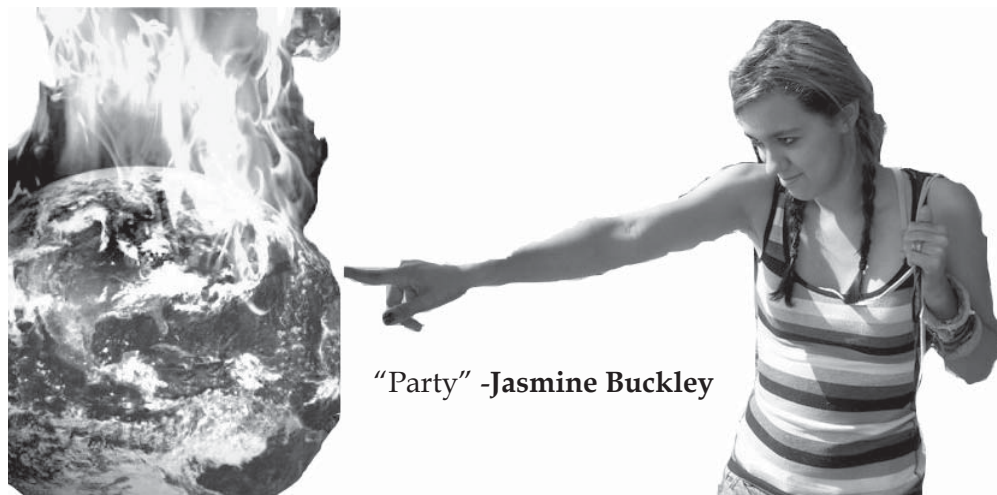
**Seniors Jack Lewis and Rachel Murphy's reaction when they heard what's predicted to happen on 2012.**

may cause," says Barnhart, "It would be easy to survive, something would happen, but nothing that would wash out the human population.

Another idea coming from the catastrophe proposal is that the magnetic



# WHAT WILL YOU DO WHEN THE WORLD ENDS?



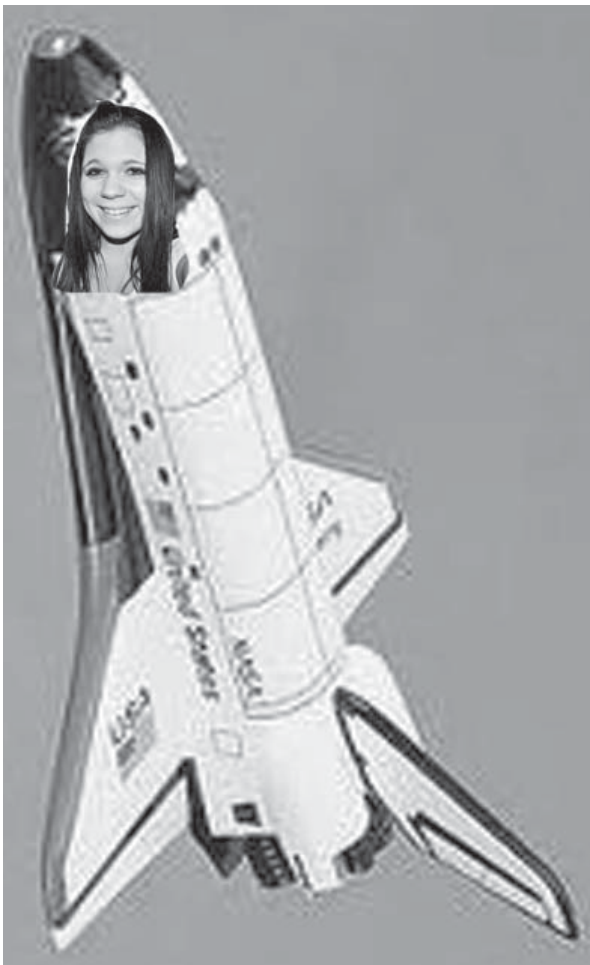
“Party” -Jasmine Buckley



“ I would probably steal a plane and go skydiving with my cat!” -Chris Rouleau



“Spend time with my bunny and tell him I love him, and laugh. I think that would be a happy way for things to end.” -Ellyn Legard



“Go to NASA and get a spaceship, unless I had only one day. Then I’d probably say everything I wanted to say to the people who are important to me.” -Kristina Wetherbee



“Steal all the animals from Pet Co., study very hard and get extremely good grades” -Parker Eastman

*Pictures of students courtesy of Facebook. Pictures of everything else courtesy of Google.*

*“I play crazy with my Dad. I love kittens and I give hugs.” – Myles, Preschooler*

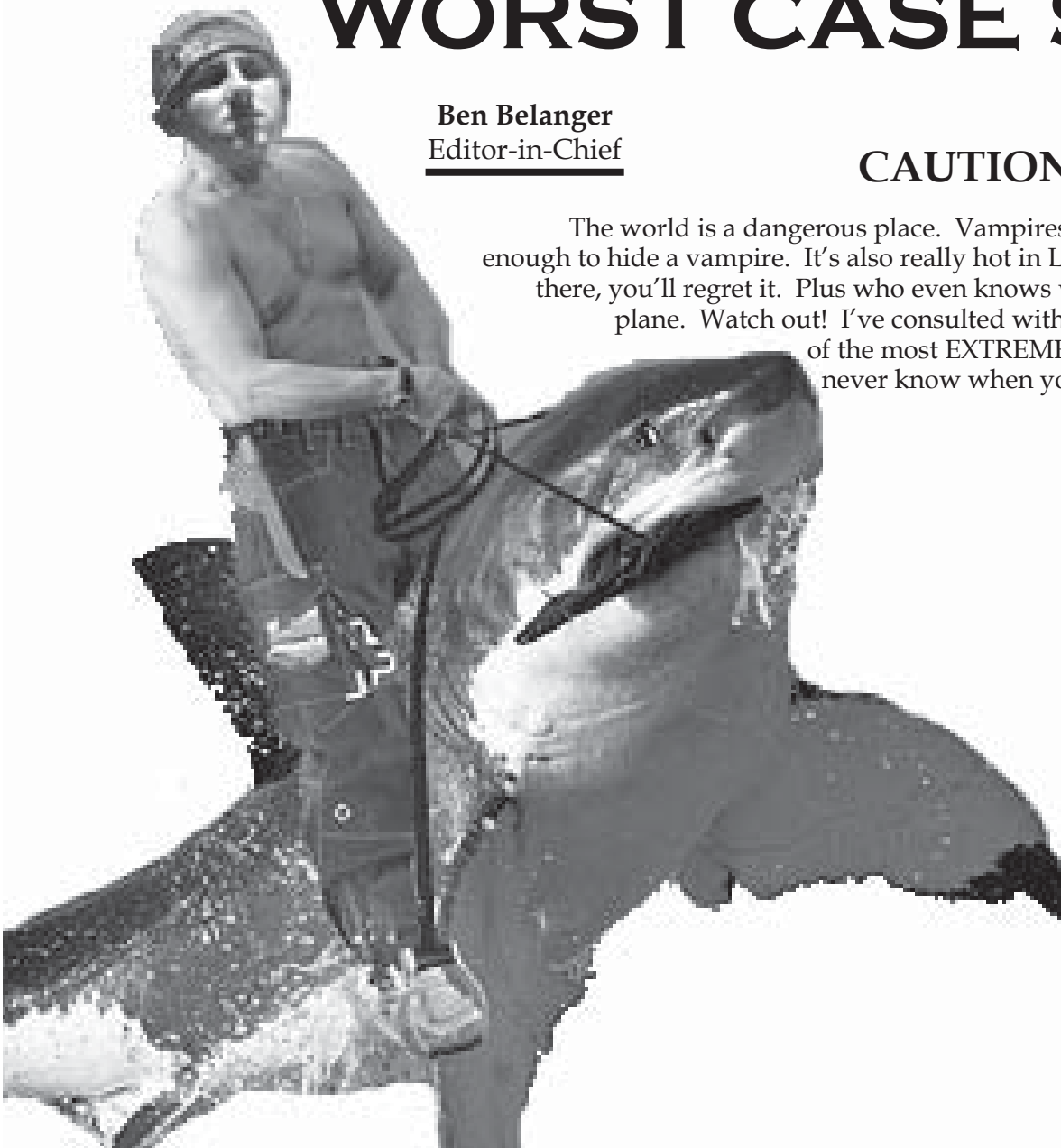


# WORST CASE SCENARIO

**Ben Belanger**  
Editor-in-Chief

## CAUTION! SPOILER ALERT!

The world is a dangerous place. Vampires could be lurking in any shadow... that is large enough to hide a vampire. It's also really hot in Las Vegas, and if you ever get accidentally roofied there, you'll regret it. Plus who even knows when 450 snakes are going to show up on your plane. Watch out! I've consulted with the experts to create a guide to survival for some of the most EXTREME SCENARIOS EVER. Read up, because you never know when you'll be in these situations.



### *How to Defend Yourself Against 450 Snakes:*

1. "Don't panic," said Dave, a 30-year snake enthusiast. "It's probably best not to agitate them." According to Dave, what most people don't realize is that snakes are afraid of people, and even with that large a number onboard one plane, unless the passengers went searching, they probably wouldn't see a single snake.

2. If you're an idiot and you get yourself bitten aboard your passenger flight, don't make things worse for yourself. "Never suck the venom out," said Dave. "Elevate the wound above the heart." Most snakes aren't venomous - these types of snakes will leave several small bites on the skin. Venomous snakes generally leave behind two bite marks which will burn significantly. "Snake bites can usually be treated within 45 minutes and you'll be fine." You better hope there's a doctor aboard...

3. Boa Constrictors are likely to, well, constrict you. Here's how to prevent that: "Grab the tail," said Dave. "Bend it backwards, start unwrapping from there. The way snakes are built, they can't hold on from their ends." A snake is strongest in the middle, so that'll be the toughest part to unravel. "Grab one end, they really can't resist you from there," said Dave. "But remember, if you're dealing with a snake over 12 feet, make sure you have someone helping you."

4. Although Dave and a local exterminator haven't killed a snake before and aren't familiar with the practice, once again Bear Grylls has come to the rescue. In an episode where man takes on the jungle, Bear laid down the law on a 6-foot snake simply by hitting it on the head with a long stick. Keep in mind, the snake is 6 feet, so you're going to need a big stick. Don't be a hero, you'll probably die. OR... you could go Harry Potter style and stab the snake through its face with a sword that appeared out of a magic hat carried by a phoenix. Either way, it'll probably die.

The conclusion: after questioning whether or not snakes can even travel on planes, Dave told me they most certainly can. So although it is possible to have some snakes all over your plane, just stay calm and don't go searching for the snakes. Plus, you've got Samuel L. Jackson aboard. You'll be fine.



## *Snakes on a Plane*

"I've had enough of these [expletive] snakes... on this [expletive] plane!"

SPOILER ALERT: in the film *Snakes on a Plane*, passengers find themselves on a plane with a lot of snakes, and then... well, actually, that's pretty much it. Yeah, there's just a bunch of snakes on their plane. I contacted Dave, owner and operator of Dave's Dragons snake pet store in Manchester, NH to get the facts.

Here's what to do if you find yourself on a plane full of 450 snakes:

*Images Courtesy of Google Images*



# The Hangover

"So how about that ride in? I guess that's why they call it Sin City."

Las Vegas is a dangerous place; gambling, drinking, tigers, strippers and roofies are only a few of the many potential hazards. If you've seen the movie *The Hangover*, you'll remember that after a night of drinking and celebrating, Doug finds himself in a tough situation. If you, like Doug, ever find yourself locked on the roof of a Las Vegas hotel in the middle of the summer, here's what you need to know:

Las Vegas is hot. On June 18<sup>th</sup> of this year it reached its peak - 113 degrees. Sitting on the roof is only going to make things worse. Plus, your body is full of alcohol and roofies from the night before, which School Nurse Danuta Richards describes as a pretty bad situation. Due to the alcohol Richards says that your blood vessels would be dilated, putting stress on your heart and other organs, you'd experience nausea and vomiting which would only make the situation worse and the alcohol would also cause another huge issue - dehydration. "Alcohol is a diuretic, meaning that it causes you to release urine," says Richards. "Eventually, you're going to stop sweating - meaning that there are no more fluids left in your body. You'd start going into shock because it would shut down your kidneys. Your electrolytes would be off-balance. You'll start having heart palpitations. Even before that, you'd experience heat stroke... your heart would shut down and you'd go into cardiac arrest. Under those circumstances, it wouldn't take long to die."

If Bear Grylls has taught me one thing, it's that in times of need, there's nothing wrong with drinking a little urine. You gotta do what you gotta do. Would that save you?

"You can probably exist for a whole week with no water," says Richards. "The problem is you'd be overcome by the heat - your enzymes would start shutting down."

Still... what about the pee?

"If you had to survive on urine... when the urine first comes out it is sterile," says Richards.

The conclusion: "Just don't get drunk and then go onto a roof in Las Vegas." ...and it's cool to drink your own pee. Got it.



# Twilight

I've never seen any of the *Twilight* movies... but I do know one thing; vampires and werewolves could beat me up.

Vampires are real. Sort of. There are several diseases, that if combined could create the ultimate vampire. A rare disease called porphyria (also called the "vampire" or "Dracula" disease) causes vampire-like symptoms, such as an extreme sensitivity to sunlight and sometimes hairiness. In extreme cases, teeth might be stained reddish brown, and eventually the patient will go crazy. Another pretty messed up possibility: haematodipsia, a sexual thirst for blood. Hey, whatever floats your boat.

In order to gain a further understanding of vampires, I made my way to Facebook. I found the page for "Vampires". Tentatively, I clicked "like" and posted on the wall, looking for an expert on the matter. Immediately, I received a message from a man named Tenshi Miko who dubbed himself an expert on "vamps". I began to interview him, at which point he revealed to me his true identity: a "hybrid" of vampire and

werewolf.

In case you ever meet a real vampire like Tenshi Miko ... or just a hairy crazy guy, with reddish brown teeth and a sexual thirst for blood, you should probably know what to do.

Let's be real, the vampires in *Twilight* go pretty crazy if they don't get their blood fix. When Edward's feeling a little blood-deprived, he sprints off into the woods to go kill an innocent forest creature. If Edward wasn't so classy, Bella would be dead in like four seconds. That said, vampires aren't just going to give up if they want your blood. If they're after you, you're probably going to have to distract them. According to randomfacts.com, you'll need a few supplies: mustard seeds and a net. If you find yourself locked in a house with a pretty mean looking vampire outside, throw the mustard seeds under the door and place the net over a window. "Vampires are compelled to count the seeds or the holes in the net, delaying them until the sun comes up." Count von Count from Sesame Street, anyone?

Vampires probably don't mess around.

James is a big dude and Victoria is a ginger - and I don't want either of those things sucking my blood.

FACT: you're going to have to kill them before they kill you. I've consulted with Vampire Expert Tenshi Miko and ORHS Graduate Katie Birr in order to determine fact from fiction when it comes to *Twilight* and vampires.

"I think [*Twilight*] is a complete joke," said Birr. "I think that vampires who glitter should only do so if they are about to burst into flames." According to Birr, the way *Twilight* portrays vampires is not only incorrect, but irresponsible. Vampires, according to legend, cannot walk in sunlight without catching fire. Gosh, that's a tough life. I went straight to the source to verify the legitimacy of this fact.

Tenshi Miko, self-proclaimed vampire (and werewolf), has struggled with this problem "since age six" - his awakened state. "I can't walk in sunlight," said Miko. "I burn in almost any degree of sunlight."

Images Courtesy of Google Images

*Twilight continued on page 23...*



# EMILIO ROJAS RAPS A “LIFE WITHOUT SHAME” SIT DOWN WITH AN EMERGING HIP HOP STAR



**Brady Brickner-Wood**  
**Op-Ed Writer**

With many emerging artists splashing onto the hip hop scene, it can be difficult to stand out. But Rojas’ latest mixtape, *Life Without Shame*, quickly garnered him stardom. Ever since the mixtape debuted as a free online download in October, people from all over have been talking about it.

With reverence from all over hip hop under his belt, Rojas has caught the attention of many music fans through his three successful mixtapes, but has also captured the interest of many hip hop stars and veterans. After being titled a great lyricist and getting the experience to work with artists such as B.o.B., Asher Roth, Curren\$y, Styles P, Mickey Factz, Yelawolf and Fashawn, as well as producers such as Boi 1da, Timbaland, J.U.S.T.I.C.E. League, Illmind and more, Rojas quickly developed a phenomenal name in hip hop. He does not take the help and guidance he has received from his collaborators for granted. Rojas says that he is “lucky to be working with the people that I work with. All of them are honest and real people. There aren’t any inflated egos or industry personas.”

But it wasn’t the big name features that caught people’s attention; it was also his smooth and fascinating flow as well as his incredible and witty lyrics. “I’m really versatile. My content is a lot more diverse, and I can switch my flows and sounds up really easily.” Rojas said.

Rojas’ lines from the powerful song, “Symphony For The Devil” are just a few that have caught critics attention: “I lost my heritage / The day I saw my parents split / Abandoning their marriage / Daddy staying in the Sheraton / No speaking Spanish anymore, cause its embarrassing to carry the



**Emilio Rojas looking on at a video shoot.**

*Photo courtesy of Court Dunn*

Nathan S. from the acclaimed website DJ booth says “When you listen to Emilio Rojas you’re listening to the future of hip-hop.” Could the reviews get any better for Rojas?

“Natural talent, drive, and dedication are a lethal combination.” These words aren’t hollow coming from Emilio Rojas; they define his life. The dazzling new rapper out of Rochester, New York has used those three aspects to not only develop respect in the hip hop community, but also to fuel his motives and work ethic.

**“It goes beyond music. I want to make my mother and my city proud.”**

With all of the positives present, it would be hard to imagine Rojas ever having a tough time making it. Yet things were not always this bright for Rojas. He says he was “written off” as a child and no one truly believed in him.

“Growing up with a single mother in a city like Rochester definitely has been a driving force (with) everything in my life. It goes beyond music. I want to make my mother and my city proud,” Rojas said.

When hip hop entered his life at a young age, it was a shining aspect that he truly needed. “People heard me and told me I had something special,” Rojas says. “The problems came when I started to believe it,” he laughs briefly, but then gets serious. “I just love hip hop. I love music. I can’t see myself doing anything but music. I’m dedicated to it.”

Things started to get serious when DJ Green Lantern, a world renowned DJ who has worked with the likes of Eminem, Nas, Jay-Z and more, first heard a young and hungry Rojas. He knew that he was listening to someone unique.

DJ Green Lantern “heard a song I had on the (mix)tape about Rochester and was like ‘Who is this kid?’. He reached out and we started to work (together)...The chemistry was just there. He’s a huge inspiration to me because he is really doing it,” Rojas recalls.

With DJ Green Lantern on his side, Rojas was ready to get very serious in an industry that takes no prisoners. After releasing two mixtapes (*Recession Proof* and *The Natural*) that were popular, but not extremely well known, he knew he had to do something classic, great and huge, to truly capture the attention of artists and fans alike.

“*Life Without Shame* is simple: no regrets. Don’t be afraid to be who you are. Don’t make excuses for your actions, and don’t act in a way that is going to need to be excused.” Rojas had that idea in his head for years and finally decided to put it into action by creating a revolutionary mixtape titled, you guessed it, *Life Without Shame*.

“This tape has been a blessing. I worked with so many amazing artists and producers...”

It is a great project.”

Rojas isn’t alone with this thought. Oyster River senior Andrew Sullivan says *Life Without Shame* is a “breath of fresh air. A lot of new rap is really redundant and similar. Emilio Rojas definitely brings originality.”

Like every album, some songs off *Life Without Shame* stand out more than others. “*Close To Me*” is a perfect example of a track that hits right where it’s supposed to: the heart.

“*Close to Me* is a record that I was sent before my first mixtape with Green was even finished. The producer, my homie Midnite, sent me the beat and I came up with the hook instantly. I just never did anything with it,” Rojas said. After a year or so of waiting, “*Close to me*” was finally brought out on Rojas’ latest effort. With no verses yet recorded, only a self-sung chorus and empty piano bars filled the record. But when an instance of love rocked Rojas’ world, he knew what he had to do. “I was going through a break up with my girlfriend at the time



**Emilio Rojas giving a memorable performance.**

*Photo courtesy of Google images.*

**Continued on next page...**



# Worst Case Scenario (continued from page 21)



Don't vampires have to drink blood? ...Why don't they catch weird diseases?

According to Concord Hospital Nurse Katryn West, that's probably just what would happen. "If the blood they consumed was infected with hepatitis of some sort, HIV or AIDS or who knows what else, they would probably contract something."

Mr. Miko doesn't let that get in the way of his blood-sucking addiction, but he does have some advice. "Vampires do need to consume blood," said Miko. "Drinking too much can kill you as well, though. About a thimble full and that's about it, about once maybe twice a week is all you need." How does he get his blood you may ask? "I have a donor," said Miko. "This is how I satisfy my cravings." And you didn't think he was real. Ha, he showed you!

Although the vampires in *Twilight* may have their own rules, they're still pretty blood-thirsty and you're a prime candidate. Here are the steps you should take to effectively take out a vamp:

Images Courtesy of Google Images

1. According to Greek legends, a vampire is weakest on Fridays. Sorry to ruin your weekend plans, but you gotta do it.
2. Do it the easy way – if you happen to catch your vampire in a deep slumber, pound several iron stakes through his coffin. That'll do it.
3. If you aren't that lucky and your vampire is awake, use garlic, hawthorn branches, or a cross to trap your vampire in a corner. A wooden stake will be sufficient from there.
4. If you happen to have a gun with a silver bullet that has been blessed by a Priest, well I guess I'm just confused why you haven't shot him yet. But, yes, that would also kill a vampire.

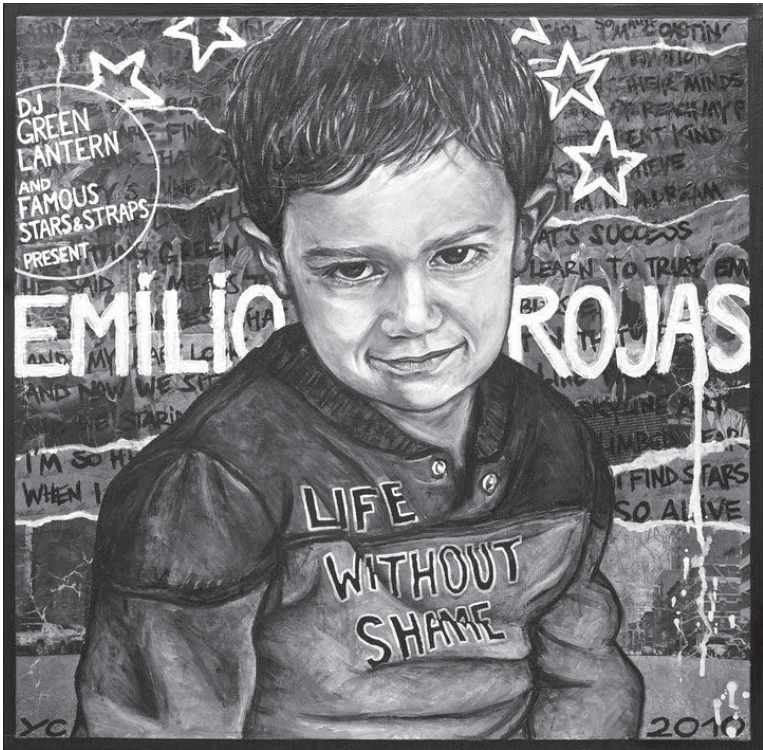
The conclusion: *Twilight* is a liar and make sure you carry a hawthorn branch, garlic, mustard seeds, a net or any type of stake on you at all times. You don't want to get Hepatitis B from Tenshi Miko.

## Continued from previous page...

and (the verses) just came to me. There is a lot of personal information in that record. A lot of pain and passion went into that song."

And the passion was certainly reciprocated. "Close to Me" debuted on the famous Hot 97 radio station in New York City and the compelling music video is about to hit the MTV Networks. All the success of the single has surprised Rojas. "I was not entirely sure about releasing the record with me on the hook because I'm not a singer – but I was proven wrong by the response. People love the record."

Other songs getting well deserved recognition are "Champion", "Ex-Girl" with Mickey Factz, "Tell No Lies" with B.o.B., "Life Without Shame" and more. "The feedback about the tape has been incredible. I think the hip hop community really views this as my breakthrough project. I'm thrilled with all the doors it



Emilio Rojas' new mixtape, *Life Without Shame*. Download it for free by going to his Facebook page: [facebook.com/emiliorojas585](http://facebook.com/emiliorojas585)

has opened for me," Rojas said.

With *Life Without Shame* thriving, music videos shining and songs repeating, it only appears to be going up for Rojas. He is currently setting up a European tour with DJ Green Lantern in November of 2011 and has been working in the studio constantly. With all the success present it is easy to ask, where is the debut album?

Rojas has serious plans for it. "We are just now getting situated with a label. When we get that all settled, I want to do (the album) right. I have records in mind and am always recording, but the album is going to be epic. Very classic and very well produced. Live instruments, great features and great visuals. It will be a classic."

Rojas has certainly proved a lot, but he always feels that he has to prove more. Music is his life and will forever be the driving force behind his being.

### A message from Emilio Rojas, to you, the fans:

Thanks to everyone for taking the time to read this, and big shouts to Brady! Make sure you go and download DJ Green Lantern & Famous Stars & Straps present: "Life Without Shame", follow me on twitter (@emiliorojas) and like my Facebook fan page ([www.facebook.com/emiliorojas585](http://www.facebook.com/emiliorojas585)). Thanks so much!!



# BAD DATE MATCH GAME!

## MATCH THE PEOPLE WITH THE BAD DATE STORIES



Sean O'Rourke



Mike Mandeville



Christian Sbrilli



Chole Piel



Eliza Brown



Kelsey Hogan



Peti Palfi



Emmet Todd



Becca Hoff



Kelley Kirby

A

"One time while I was out with a girl I was dating, she repeatedly called me by her ex's name without even realizing it."

B

"This guy I was out with mentioned multiple times how much I reminded him of his mother and that's why he liked me."

C

"I went to the movies with this girl and when we came out of the theater her car had been towed."

D

"I was at the Texas Roadhouse with this girl I was dating and I told the waitress it was my date's birthday even though it wasn't. The staff came out with the saddle but my date refused to get on so I ended up riding it instead."

E

"One time I had dinner with a guy who was Spanish and barely spoke English. I don't really speak Spanish so we spent most of the meal in silence."

F

"I went to this Thai restaurant with a girl I barely knew. She ended up getting really sick and spent most of the date in the bathroom. We didn't go out again after that."

G

"While at the movies, I left to go to the bathroom and when I came back I sat down next to someone who wasn't my date and began talking to them like they were."

H

"My date dropped me off at my house and I ran out onto the icy drive way and fell right in front of the car while my date and everyone in the car watched."

I

"I was hanging out with this girl I liked at her house. Apparently I was talking too much because she told me to shut up. Now I don't talk anymore."

J

"I had only known him from study hall... we were at the school play and I was very tired from the *Twilight* premiere. I fell asleep on his shoulder, for the whole play. It was a 'good' first impression, but some how it worked out."

Answer Key:

A: Emmet Todd B: Kelley Kirby C: Peti Palfi D: Mike Mandeville E: Becca Hoff F: Christian Sbrilli G: Kelsey Hogan H: Eliza Brown I: Sean O'Rourke J: Chole Piel





**Brenna Cahill**  
**Features Writer**

# OVERHEARDS

“I sometimes change the lyrics to Willow Smith’s ‘I Whip My Hair’ and sing it to my dog! ‘He wags his tail back and forth. He wags his tail back and forth.’” - Mr. OC

“I enjoy doing nasty things with men over 60.” - Bridget Regan

“I’m good at using needles.” - Chris Walker

“My cat tries to assassinate me every night.” - Mr. OC

“Please stop talking about testicles now.” - Mrs. Kucera

“No one wants to smell your butt on their seat!” - Ms. Drake

“Stereotypes tend to be true.” - Mr. Bromley



Photo courtesy of Google Images

“I don’t think you hump with your arm.” - Marissa Biederman

“JoJo wrote the theme song to my life.” - Jake Baver

“I wish I had boobs.” - Brady Brickner-Wood

## Overheards from our very own Brady Brickner-Wood

“I sometimes wake up naked.” - Brady Brickner-Wood

“I sometimes slip GHB in my drink just to see what will happen. The next morning, I never remember...” - Brady Brickner-Wood

“Mike and I have more of a personal relationship rather than professional” - Brady Brickner-Wood

“Sometimes if I get lonely at night, I run around my neighborhood dressed as Batman” - Brady Brickner-Wood

“I sometimes pick my nose when I think no one is watching...a couple of times people have been.” - Brady Brickner-Wood



**Emily Healy**  
**Features Writer**

# HOROSCOPES

You may have heard recently that changes in the alignment of the stars have caused all the zodiac signs to shift... STOP FREAKING OUT! First of all, the US, along with most of the Western hemisphere, follows the “tropical zodiac” system, instead of the celestial zodiac, so our signs are based on the changes in seasons rather than constellations. The change is only affecting Eastern zodiac philosophy. Second of all, do you really care? You’ve identified with your “old” sign your whole life, even though you were probably born under your “new” sign. So choose which you like better. Or better yet, just read both of them. Problem solved.



**Aquarius-** Once again, you found yourself without love on Valentine’s Day. That pint of Ben & Jerry’s you consumed entirely by yourself went straight to your waistline. And even more good news: there will soon be a recall on the raw Pillsbury cookie dough you ate along with the ice cream because of high salmonella rates. Have fun puking!

**Pisces-** Those \*67 calls you keep getting? They’re from Wally. He just doesn’t have the courage to tell you that he’s been madly in love with you ever since you signed yourself out of the library correctly.



**Aries-** Admit it—you think Gubby Noronha is a heartthrob. With Jupiter and Venus crossing paths this month, you will pluck up the courage to woo him. Hint: he loves anyone who can make an awesome PB&J.

**Taurus-** Marriage proposals are coming your way this month. From teachers, friends, Gucci Mane and Sarah McLaughlin. Just make sure you consider all your options before choosing your fiancé—do



Gucci’s pop celebrity status and money really compare to Sarah’s angelic voice?

**Gemini-** Beyoncé wants you to put a ring on it. Don’t be shy.

**Cancer-** Enrique Iglesias will appear beneath your window one clear winter night to sing you excerpts from his hit single “Tonight (I’m Loving You)”. (The explicit version!)



**Leo-** This month, consider which relationships in your life are really meaningful to you. In the words of Hanson, “So hold on to the ones who really care. In the end they’ll be the only ones there. And when you get old and start losing your hair, tell me who will still care...mmmmbop, daba dooo bop.”

**Virgo-** That sexy barista at BNG has been making flirty eyes at you this month. It’s not going anywhere, though. Especially after they spit in your candy cane mocha.



**Libra-** A moonlit walk with your lover will leave you with butterflies in your stomach. And frostbite on your toes. Why would you wear your Birkenstocks in the snow, stupid? Guess you’ll have to engage in an adorable game of footsies to keep warm.

**Scorpio-** You’ll be showered with attention from numerous gentleman (or lady) callers this month. Be prepared for these suitors to sing you a love ballad or perform an interpretive dance for you, because with so many options, over-the-top gestures are the only way your admirers can win your heart.



**Sagittarius-** You can’t explain it, you just know you have a thing for people with excessive nose hair. Don’t let snide remarks from your friends about buying an electric nose hair trimmer for your lover bring you down. You know what you like.

**Capricorn-** You’ll be inspired to pull out all the stops in planning a romantic evening for that special someone. With Mars in your house, everything will probably go wrong. That sucks.



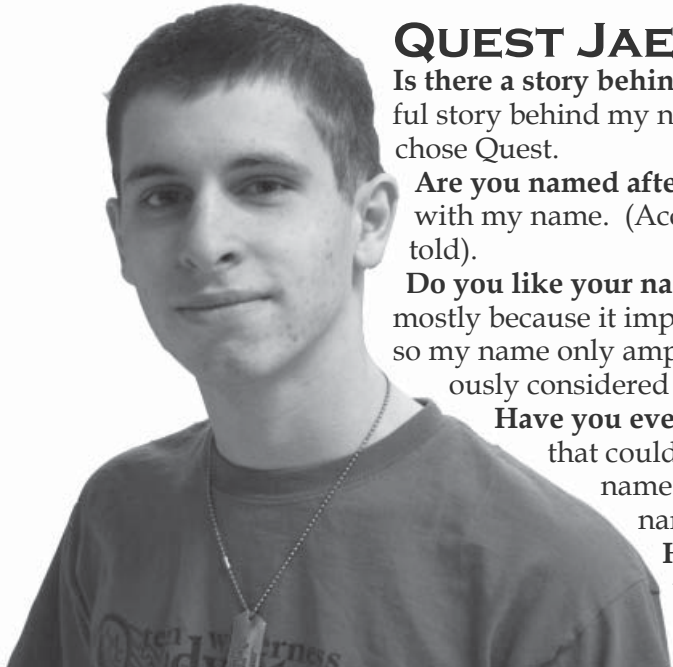




**Emily Dube**  
**Features Writer**

## UNIQUE PEOPLE, UNIQUE NAMES

Let's be honest with ourselves, what we have here is a pretty unique freshman class. First of all, class of 2014? That makes ME feel old (sorry grown-ups...). They were also featured in Bridget Regan's PDA article (you guys seriously have to stop that.) While these things are impressive, what I want to focus on today are their names. I have gone through the freshman class roster and selected four people with some of the most unique names and interviewed them to find out their story.



### QUEST JAEGER

**Is there a story behind your name? If so, what is it?** I cannot say there is a terribly deep and meaningful story behind my name. My parents said they wanted one that had never been used before, so they chose Quest.

**Are you named after someone?** I am not named after anyone and I have never met another person with my name. (According to MPR, Quest is the least common name in the United States, or so I'm told).

**Do you like your name? If you could change it, what would it be?** I am extremely fond of my name, mostly because it impresses people. I prefer to be diverse and pick a different path than everybody else so my name only amplifies that quality. I have often thought about nicknames or aliases but never seriously considered changing my name. Though if I had to I kind of like the name Ezekiel.

**Have you ever been made fun of because of your name?** I've only once received something that could remotely be considered an insult and that was "why do you have such a strange name?" I like to use the word unique personally, for the most part people love my name.

**How is it actually pronounced? Do people say it weirdly?** Occasionally people will think my name is West but most of the trouble I have is with my last name, Jaeger (yay-ger). Only about two or three people have gotten it right the first time.

### CARLISLE CHIDO NICKNAME: CARLI

**Is there a story behind your name? If so, what is it?** I'm named after a railway in England called the Carlisle Settle Railway. I'm named after a railway because my dad is literally obsessed with trains.

**Are you named after someone?** Nope, I'm not named after anyone. It's totally unique.

**Do you like your name? If you could change it, what would it be?** Yeah, I kind of like my name mostly because it's so unique and no one else I know has it. Also even my nickname, Carli, is unique because it is usually either spelled with a "y" or an "e" at the end.

**Have you ever been made fun of because of your name?** Well, my friends just joke around about me being named after a train station because they think it's funny how obsessed my dad is with trains.

**How is it actually pronounced? Do people say it weirdly?** My full name is pronounced Car-lile and teachers usually screw it up when they see it for the first time on an attendance list. They'll attempt to somehow say it with the "s" in the middle, even though it's supposed to be silent.



### ARIODANTE D'ANTILLIO NICKNAME: OREO

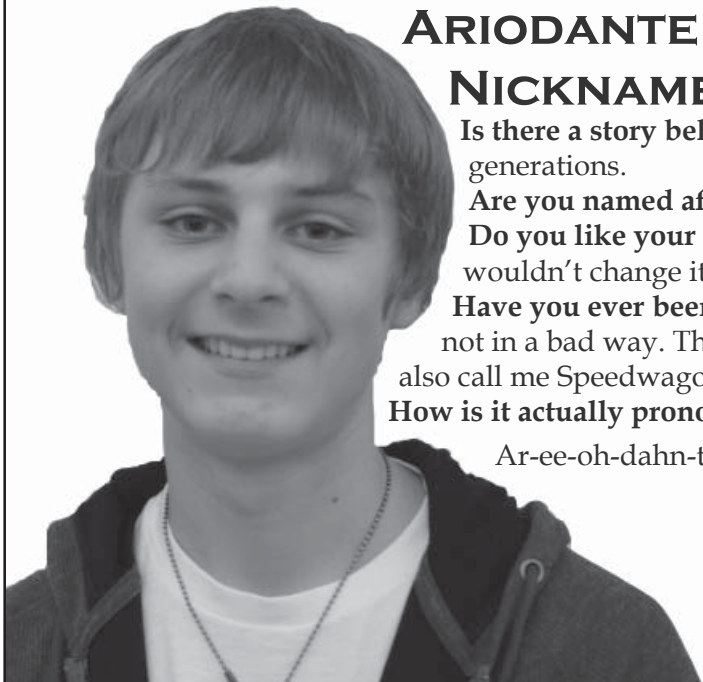
**Is there a story behind your name? If so, what is it?** It has been passed down to the first born son for generations.

**Are you named after someone?** I'm named after my dad who was named after his dad etc..

**Do you like your name? If you could change it, what would it be?** I love my name, I definitely wouldn't change it.

**Have you ever been made fun of because of your name?** Yeah all the time, but not in a bad way. They call me Oreo a lot and 'America's Favorite Cookie'. They also call me Speedwagon cause of the name and whatever else they can think of.

**How is it actually pronounced? Do people say it weirdly?** It's pronounced Ar-ee-oh-dahn-tay D-An-till-ee-oh



### ALESSANDRO CALZONE NICKNAME: SANDRO

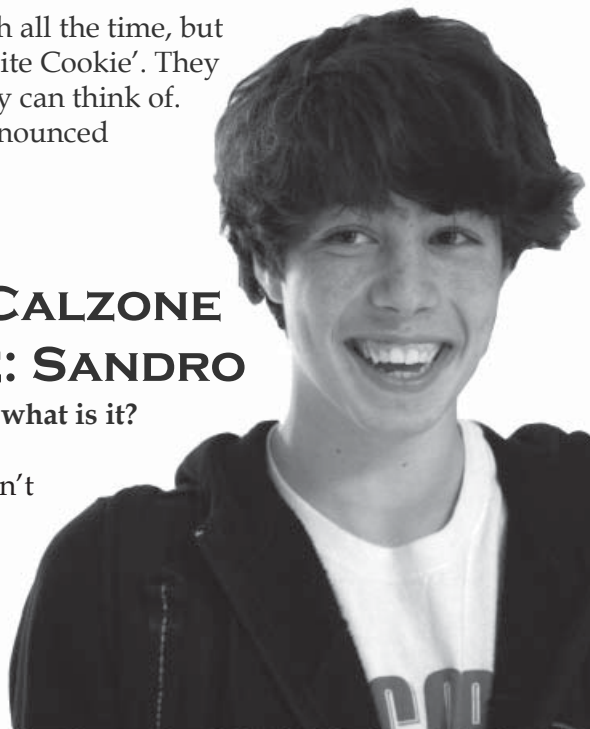
**Is there a story behind your name? If so, what is it?**

There isn't a story behind my name, I'm just from Italy.

**Do you like your name? If you could change it, what would it be?** I like my name, and I wouldn't change it.

**Have you ever been made fun of because of your name?** I've been made fun of but not in a bad way.

**How is it actually pronounced? Do people say it weirdly?** It's pronounced All-eh-sahn-dro Cahl-zoh-neh, people say it weirdly but only when they first meet me







**Katie Burzon**  
Guest Writer

## WHAT I MISS ABOUT BEING A KID

The other day was constantly being reminded of the excitement and surprises of my childhood. I took this as a sign and decided that the best way to express my desire to look back upon my rather short childhood, would be to write about it. As I wrote, it took me back to many memories of my youth. Though I didn't share most of them because they would be out of context and irrelevant to the reader, I shared a few that most people could relate to. For you, I hope that some of the points I bring up will take you back to your childhood, as they did for me.

### 1. Simplicity

Remember having no responsibilities? When you're a kid the biggest problems you have aren't even as big as they might have seemed. Everyday is so easy: you sleep, you eat and maybe spend some time at school or day-care. ORHS Sophomore Hannah Grant admits that the simplicity of being a kid is what she misses the most, "I miss being carefree and not having any priorities."



**From when she was little, to present day, Georgia Borner has always been crazy about soccer.**

Grant often recollects the days where she could just be able "to run around with friends and jump off trees." She talks about how she would only care about what she was doing, and never had to worry about other people.

ORHS Senior Georgia Borner also shared the same admiration towards the minimalism of childhood. Borner, says she could often be found playing soccer as a kid. "Soccer was my favorite as a kid!" admits Borner, "But as I grew up it sort of lost its innocence."

Borner explains that this has been the biggest change she's seen while growing up. She shared that everything gets complicated and nothing stays as simple as

it might have been when your young. "When your little the game is all about having fun with your friends and at the end your given snacks," explains Borner. "Now, you're still having fun with your friends but you have to work your butt off!" Many other people can relate to Borner about the fact that many of the things in their lives have lost their straightforwardness and have become much more vital and serious to our future.

### 2. Imaginative Games

Playing pretend was another stand out memory for me, and I'm sure for numerous other kids as well. For me, and many other girls, playing "house" was not surprising. Someone was the mom, an unwilling someone would be the dad and then of course there would always be the baby. Unfortunately, I don't remember (as well as I wish I could) the whole point of this game, and how exactly we would act things out. It's really surprising to look back onto your childhood, you recognize how content you were with playing that same game over and over again.

Though I don't remember playing "house" that clearly, I do remember most of the make believe games I played with my little brother. My brother and I (well mostly my brother) were fans of Star Wars and could often be found reenacting scenes from that. I also have recollections of playing "Harry Potter", British accents everything. Yeah, I guess you could say we weren't the coolest kids.

### 3. Bus Drivers

I actually was reminded of my bus driver the other day and then felt prompted to reminisce on that. In Elementary school the buses were kind

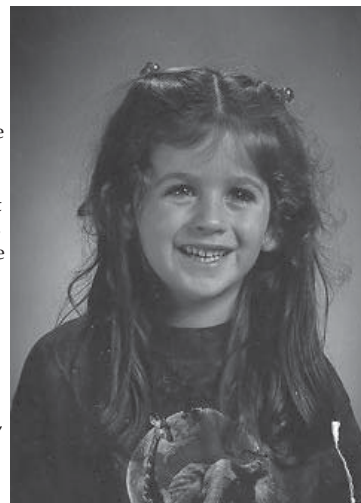
of a blur, but I can clearly remember one certain bus driver. To everyone on the early Bus 36 crew, Ms. Cooper was definitely a stand out. I can remember her always giving us little presents on the holidays and if I ever gave her a Christmas gift or something she'd immediately throw her arms out to hug me. I even have this vivid memory of her throwing candy to us from her front seat. Those were the days; I really appreciated her and all the bus drivers who made my childhood so much more memorable. It wasn't just Ms. Cooper, but the whole company of bus drivers that were awesome.

However, it wasn't just the bus drivers who made the bus rides awesome. It was also the whole atmosphere of the bus that made it so fun. Even though we only ended up riding it about twenty to thirty minutes total, it was probably the best period of time in the day. Whether it was when we skidded down the aisles, flying out of our seats when the bus hit potholes or socializing during the fire drills, everyone has a memory from their bus ride experiences. Nowadays, I would never want to ride the bus again and my whole sophomore year was basically me daydreaming about driving myself to school, but I wouldn't give up those good times for anything.

### 4. TV Shows

One thing I miss most about being little are the shows you got to watch with it. I was definitely a PBS kid. My weeks were based of watching *Arthur*, *Sagwa: The Chinese Siamese Cat* and *Between the Lions*. This, along with an abundance of other classic PBS shows, was what defined everything I learnt from TV, until our cable got messed up. Before we knew it, we were no longer basic cable children. I remember the faithful day we "accidentally" got two or three extra cable channels, Cartoon Network included. Though this was a small and meaningless turning point in my life, it changed my views about TV. Though it doesn't seem like a big difference I went from learning the ABC's to learning the ABC's of life. Whether it was learning what sibling relationship should be like from *Dexter's Lab*, to learning about relationships from *Johnny Bravo*, Cartoon Network took a step into the real world, into a grown up life.

Though obviously all cartoons are fake and meant to be used as entertainment, I think we all learned basic concepts from them as children. Whether the concepts were good or bad, there's so much to learn out there and I think that no matter what age you are, 8 or 80, you always leaning, and there's never an end to that whole cycle.



**Hannah Grant at age 5.**



**Me at age 6.**



# OH, SWEET LOVE OF MINE



**Bridget Regan**  
Editor-in-Chief

Ahhh first loves. We all remember them, and have a story to tell about each one. My first love happens to be someone who is on the newspaper with me, Alex Harling. We have been neighbors forever and used to spend all of our time together. I told people that I had a blue wedding dress in my basement and that I was planning on wearing it in our wedding. But over time, our love died and I moved on to other men.

Fourth grade rolled around and my love soared to a new level. I put a secret admirer note in Spencer Wyand's cubby. It was typed, so no one could recognize my handwriting. The note is shown below.

*Dear Spencer,  
I have a crush on you. I think that you are cute, you have good handwriting, smart and I think that you like me. Don't share this with your friends or you might get embarrassed. If you like me or want to find out who I am then lunch recess meet me at the black swings. I hope you like me too even thou I'm not the best rule follower in the world.*

*From you secret admire.  
P.S. I'll be waiting for you there.*

## Other first loves:

"Hallie Miller" - Nevin Gansburg  
"Hannah Finch" - Kyle Scarano  
"Hannah Finch" - Brady Brickner-Wood  
"Brady Brickner-Wood" - Hannah Finch  
I don't remember - Corey Scarano

I didn't wait, because he told his friends and my heart was broken. Stories like these happen all the time and it was my job to discover some.

**Brady Brady Brady, you are honestly the coolest guy everrrrr! You make me smile so much and laugh because when im sad you know how to cheer me upp. You make my life complete .haha ..umm so, So we went out in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and here I find my self in love with you brady! AGAIN. And you mean more than half my heart to me and I honestly do love you. Everyone should be sooooo jelouss that your mine and they cant have you.haha. You filled the missing piece inside me and like added another piece to the puzzle, and you were just what I was looking for. I love you soo much Brady, and you're a really special person to me!**

**Happy Valentines Day Love!**

**Love, your looser.**

**Hallie.**

Hallie Miller threw her love at Brady Brickner-Wood not just in 5th grade, but in 7th grade as well. This relationship started with Miller admiring Brickner-Wood's sweatpants, but later ended with heartbreak. The letter that was sent is seen to the left.

"I dumped her so I could hang out with Andrea [Belaidi] that day," says Brickner-Wood. "And then in 8th grade [Miller] played me like a puppet for revenge." Brickner-Wood and Miller didn't talk to one another from the end of 8th grade until the middle of their Junior year due to the level of heartbreak experienced. In case you're wondering, Brickner-Wood and Miller did make up last year, but this just goes to show how long heartbreak can last. But, as time goes on, elementary and middle school realtionships will either last long into high

school, where they'll either thrive or fall flat, or will realize that their happy time wasn't meant to last too long.

"Cassie Broughton" - Ben Belanger  
"Andrea Belaidi" - Dylan Kelly  
"Dylan Kelly" - Andrea Belaidi  
(Belaidi and Kelly dated 4th-7th grade)  
"Ethan Schidlosky" - Shelby Grogan  
"Bridget Regan" - Alex Harling

## VOTE FOR O.R. GRADUATE CHANDLER HULL FOR ORCSD SCHOOL BOARD

**Graduated:**

Class President  
Top of the Class  
and Ready to Lead

**Vote!**  
**March 8th**



*"It will be no surprise that I want to represent student interest"*

*"In many discussions at the Board level, it seems like considering what's in the best interest of students is a side issue instead of being the focus."*



# THE RANTS:

## “GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE FUN”



**Ben Belanger**  
Editor-in-Chief

It's the "season of love."  
Yeaaaaaaah sure. Love doesn't exist.

Valentine's Day is quite possibly the worst day ever. Fancy chocolates, crappy cards and fake love; Valentine's Day blows. It also signifies the beginning of the single duty that a female has in her whole life: asking someone to the Sadie Hawkins dance.

Sadie Hawkins was a comic strip character. Originally showing up in the Lil' Abner comics way back in the day, Sadie

Hawkins was a ballsy lady for sure. Keep in mind, uh, she doesn't exist. Real girls aren't like that.

I'm here today to make a stand. To make a wish, take a chance, make a change, and break away. My issue: the Sadie Hawkins dance is the one initiative a woman has to take in her life. Take notes, ladies.

For those of you who don't know,

Sadies is the one dance that a girl is expected to ask a boy to. For every other formal dance (or event, or *anything* ever), the man is expected to take the initiative. The first date, the "arm maneuver" (if you were a pirate, would you keep your parrot on this shoulder or thiiiiiiiis one?), the first kiss, the first phone call, the prom, the proposal - everything lies on the shoulders of the man. Don't get me wrong, I'm



The "real" Sadie Hawkins. ...yeah, I know. She's hot.

¡Yo Quiero  
Taco Bell!



not going to complain about that, but what females fail to acknowledge is that it takes a lot to muster up the confidence to take initiative with someone you'll be seeing every day for the rest of high school. Even just suggesting a date to Taco Bell and the movies is a pretty big undertaking. All you are doing is literally offering your female of interest a free dinner and movie (and we all know they're going to pick the \$15 3D movie), but there's still a chance you'll get turned down and have to face that person until you graduate. That's something I'll never understand - if a girl ever asked me to get a chicken quesadilla and then go see Avatar in 3D, and it was expected that she was going to be paying... why would I ever say "no" to that? I love quesadillas and I love Avatar. Chances are I'll probably love you, too, if you want to take me there. Give it a shot.

A little side note: I don't want a girl paying for me. Ever. As some of you know, I work at the Durham House of Pizza. When I see a good-looking girl come in with her boyfriend to get some delicious treats and she offers me a \$20, I generally wait a few seconds to take it, offering him a little time to take out his wallet. If at that point he still doesn't offer to pay, I consider my options. "This one's on me," I consider saying. I give him a quick look, as if to say "man up, buddy." Nothing? Alright. It's just not supposed to happen like that.

Here's my prediction: a week before Sadies, 90% of the girls in this school will either text, Facebook chat or MAYBE walk up to their hopeful date and mutter the following words while blushing uncontrollably: "Um, hi. Do we have science homework? Um, so I was wondering if you'd want to go to Sadies with me?" After a second of shocked silence, you'll make sure you add in "AS FRIENDS!" just to make sure you take away all meaning behind the date.

Freshman, sophomore and junior ladies - this is your chance to make right. Change the tide and put in a little effort. For once.

Senior girls - I'm almost positive you won't listen to me, but this is your last Sadies ever, thus marking the finale of any effort you'll ever have to put into your life. That's not an exaggeration.

That's all.



# "MEANNESS IS NOT A DEVELOPMENTAL STAGE!"



**Eryn Daly**  
Op-Ed Writer

You watch old movies about high school and you see the typical kid getting shoved into a locker or thrown into a trash can. This type of bullying might be a major problem at other high schools, but I am proud to say that bullying is not a huge issue at Oyster River...or is it?



If you ask students around the school most will tell you they don't recognize any signs of bullying, but is it because we are so used to verbally abusing underclassmen when they walk by the core or chirping other sports teams when they come to our schools? Though physical abuse is not seen every day here, the district still had Dr. Malcolm L. Smith come to the school so parents who were concerned or wanted to learn more on bullying could get all the information they wanted.

Smith is a professor at UNH that specializes in Family Life and Family Policy and has spent many years gathering information on bullying. During his presentation he started off with discussing his childhood and how he was bullied at school for being in the special education program.

"Screw ups like me just didn't like school," said Smith. He later explained that walking into the cafeteria with his fellow special education class mates would always lead to other students yelling at the top of their lung "SPEDS!" This for anyone can be traumatizing and that is why Smith now spends 15 minutes preparing himself before he can walk in and teach any class.



The presentation at the school was extremely insightful on how bullying can turn into something so major. Bullying doesn't need to be many incidents; it can just be

one single time that is significant enough to make a harmful mark on a person's life. According to *Understanding Bullying* a booklet published by University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension and the Family Education Collaborative, a child is bullied every seven minutes and 30% of all school-aged children report having been the victims of bullying.

Maybe the reason we do not see bullying in the high school is because bullying is now more than ever happening in lower grade levels, like 5 and 6th grade. The younger children are more into emotional bullying. Bullying can come in several forms: physical, verbal, emotional and sexual.

It can be direct such as hitting, teasing or threatening or indirect which is when people would exclude others, spread rumors, cyber bully someone and psychological manipulation. Just because bullying is more common in lower grade levels now a days, does not mean an upper classman does not have a chance at being bullied.

Senior Bobby McDonough claims that he in fact has been bullied.

"National Bully Day- I get peck slapped and people yell my name obnoxiously." Though McDonough knows that everyone is just playing with him he still finds National Bully

Day to be a slight form of bullying.

The reason we don't see as much bullying probably comes down to the fact that we are a small high school com-

pared to most high schools. With a graduating class of 170 students everyone knows everyone whether you are close with them or not, so not many students would take bullying too far. Bullying also has to do with the environment that you are surrounded by. Because we are such a small school

everyone can recognize everyone's face, making Oyster River a less violent atmosphere. Senior Kelly Voltz transferred here from Dover High School last year and said there is a dramatic difference between the schools "I was only at Dover for the 1st semester of my junior year and in that time there was, I believe 13 fights. Also the bullying was a lot

more obvious because all the fights that I saw were more physical than verbal."

After all of my readings on bullying and listening to Smith's words of advise on how to handle a child being bullied, I can't stress enough how lucky we are to go to a school with very little bullying. Everyone needs to know that even though we do not see it often here, bullying is a major problem around the United States. If you or someone you know is being bullied please do not think twice to report it to your school or an adult.



*Images courtesy of Google images*





**Jack Lewis**  
Guest Writer

## ART OR VANDALISM???

All of us have seen "it" somewhere in our travels. "It" can be found in big cities and in small towns. Sidewalks, walls, signs, subways,

tunnels, bridges and water towers are often the canvas that are used to display "it". Some view "it" as art and others view "it" as a crime. Can you guess what "it" is? How many of your guessed Graffiti? The word Graffiti simply means words or drawings scratched or scribbled on a wall.

The word comes from the Greek term "graphein" (to write). Many mistake graffiti for vandalism while others say it's art. What do you believe?

Graffiti has existed since ancient times, dating back to Ancient Greece and the Roman Empire. These days' graffiti is more commonly used with spray paint and marker pens. Graffiti artists usually display their art to show messages to the world. There are many different types and styles of graffiti that are used these days.

The most common and simplest type of graffiti is "tagging". It consists of the artist's street name and only one color. Tagging is usually done with spray-paint, markers or pens. Tags are usually the signature of the artist or if they are associated with a crew. If a tag is put on top of another tag, it is extremely disrespectful.

Next is a "throw-up" which usually contains two or three colors. While still displaying the artists name it is written in bubble letters, often with one color with a different colored outline. When a tagger goes out "bombing" it usually means they are tagging all over their area.

Using stencils is an effective way to put up complicated pieces fast. This is a way to get a more detailed picture across. Stencil graffiti can be pictured within a matter of minutes. This type of graffiti was made popular by Blek Le Rat and Banksy.

Blek Le Rat (Xavier Prou) was born in Boulogne-Billancourt, Paris in 1952.



Displayed here in Dover, NH is "throw-up" graffiti



The basic "tagging" is displayed here at Dover skate Park

He was considered the godfather of stencil graffiti. He began his artwork in Paris in 1981. Since then he has been a great influence on today's graffiti.

Banksy is a British Graffiti artist who was born in Bristol, England in 1974. His graffiti is a combination of dark humor with graffiti done with a distinctive stenciling technique.

"Stickers" or "Slaps" are another type. It is known to be the "lazy" type of graffiti. Graffiti artists like stickers because they can take their own time and then when they are ready, you can stick it anywhere!

"Wild style" is another type of graffiti that was made popular by artists in New York. It's a very complicated and stylized type of graffiti. To an unknown eye it is very hard to read. Wild style features arrows, spikes, curves and other elements that non-graffiti artists might have trouble understanding.

You know that graffiti you see when a train goes by? That's blockbuster graffiti. A blockbuster is used to cover a maximum area in a minimal amount of time. It consists of block letters, and can be accomplished with paint rollers. It's usually put up to cover up other work.

Oyster River High school principal Laura Rogers says that "Graffiti is stupid, not artistic." Oyster River Art teacher, Tim Lawrence disagrees. Lawrence has seen some phenomenal graffiti pieces, and some graffiti pieces that are crappy. It is very similar to regular art. Some types are more appreciated than others.

At Oyster River High School, not much graffiti is done. Rogers says, "I don't want to see 'Dank Nug' written inside of Oyster River." Punishment for

graffiti would be to make them do community service and pay for the damages.

NH State Laws represent graffiti to be punishable as criminal mischief and it will vary to the amount of cost for the damage. Officer Hollie Rulo says that, "In New Hampshire, depending upon the damages, it could be a misdemeanor." While Rulo has been at Oyster River she hasn't seen much graffiti done.

Lawrence has done a little graffiti while in high school. "I did it just to piss off the nuns," but then later in high school he realized he actually liked them and felt bad.

It's up to you to decide whether or not you think graffiti is art or vandalism.



Here is the "Sticker" type of Graffiti, at Dover Skate Park



"Tagging" is displayed once again at Dovers Garisson Hill Tower

BLU MUTO GRAFFITI:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgRUK4fPDxY>



# THINGS THAT MAKE ME GRUMPY

## ADVICE THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE



**Brady Brickner-Wood**  
Op-Ed Writer

I know you've read the title and are thinking "hey, who does this guy think he is, telling me what to do with my life." I know, I'm sorry, if you want to stop reading, you can. However, if you would like to take some generic advice from someone who has been in existence for a monstrous 17 years, then I implore you, keep your eyes glued to the page.

### Tip #1: "Weeeeeeeew!" Oh my lord, where do I begin...

I have listened to this terrible screech for too long. Never heard it? You're a lucky person.

"(Ryan) Randall created it for the lacrosse team last year. It was just something to pump us up," Oyster River lacrosse goalie Joseph Fletcher said. After the lacrosse boys started posting their Facebook statuses to things such as "weeeew, lets win!" the phrase started to catch on all over Oyster River.

"They're follower words. People say it because everyone else says it," senior Geoff Lee says. He makes a valid point. Young guys that idolize senior guys started to say "weeeew" because their elders were using the term and young girls were saying "weeeew" for the same reasons.

Yet, it's not because they are follower words that makes me hate them. It is the horrid noise of "weeeew" that truly makes me despise the wretched tones. It is an awful noise. It's high pitched and used in the complete wrong context 80% of the time. However, sophomore Corey Scarano disagrees.

"I think it's funny," she begins. "We have our own lingo here. Weew! It just means you're excited about things!"

Little does Scarano know, "weew" is hardly lingo. It is a screech, a squeal, a plead for annoyance; it is the epitome of awful.

Yet, before I get carried away, Senior Nathan Tong reminds me that I should keep my cool. "People can say what they want," he says. "It doesn't bother me. It's annoying, but these days a lot of things are annoying."

Tong has successfully reminded me that people do have the right to say what they want, regardless of how stupid and terrible it sounds. Still, in a perfect world, the lacrosse team, the originators, would continue using "weeeew" and everyone else would stop. It is their slogan and as long as it stays their slogan, then I am content. But for everyone else in the world, cut it out. Stop while you can. Please, for the love of life...

### Tip #2: People that make excuses for EVERYTHING - take responsibility!

This tip is simple. Take generic responsibility for your actions. In life, if you make a mistake or are not performing the way people expect you too, the worst thing you can do is create excuses for your poor actions.

However, I have yet to meet a human that doesn't create excuses. We all do it and it is ridiculous and unreasonable to

recommend that people should not make excuses.

With that being said, we all know that "guy" who is an excuse machine. Any nuance that occurs is countered with a reason, true or not, as to why that nuance is happening.

A message to those people: We all have our flaws...recognize that is yours and better yourself by not pumping out excuses every other word.

### Tip #3: The inter-sports hatred must end now.

Baseball and lacrosse foes, you could learn something from those gracious basketball and hockey kids. Why might you ask? As a member of both the baseball and the basketball team at

Oyster River, I can tell you how different the relationships are with the hockey and the lacrosse teams. In the winter, the hockey team comes to all the basketball home games and are the most rowdy, rambunctious, supportive and awesome fans in the gym. At the Whit, the basketball team makes a point to get to the

**"Weew" is hardly lingo. It is a screech, a squeal, a plead for annoyance; it is the epitome of awful.**



Teens yelling "Weeeew"  
Photo Courtesy of Google Images

game early and support their fellow comrades as they score goals and bundle opponents.

In the spring, however, I will walk down the halls with my Bobcat baseball hat on and one of my friends, a lacrosse team member, will

walk by me and say "BASEBALL P\*\*\*\*!" I then get extremely mad and go to all my teammates and tell them how much I hate the lacrosse team. The cycle continues.

Things certainly got better last year when the lacrosse team came to our games after their practice and yelled at the opponents. But still, the tension remains, and I beg the lacrosse and baseball teams to get along and be supportive, just like the basketball and hockey teams.



Baseball player Jack Garnhart, holds a lacrosse stick, in an attempt to end the rivalry of the spring sports.

### What Makes the Rest of MOR Grumpy?

**Megan:** "When people put their feet in my face."

**Emily Dube:** "People who pretend to be dumb...even though they're not."

**Emily Healy:** "When people don't turn their blinkers off when going around roundabouts."

**Mike:** "When people cradle lacrosse sticks in the hallway."

**Eryn:** "I hate when underclassmen girls think they're awesome...and they're not."

**Danielle:** "People who don't hold the door open when you're right behind them."

**Jack:** "People who ask too many questions."

**Rachel:** "People who untag my photos when I work hard to take them."

**Ben:** "When I'm waiting forever and someone doesn't use their blinker."

**Bridget:** "People who say 'like' every other word."

**Brenna:** "Bad manners."

**Katie:** "People texting when you're trying to talk to them."

**Alex:** "People who don't clean up their dog poop."

**Ms. Kucera:** "People who don't make deadline."



## BRINGING A CHANGE



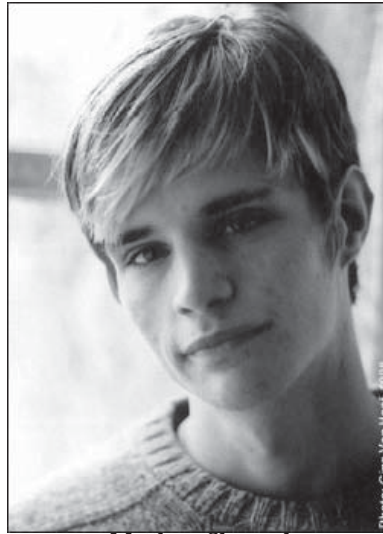
**Bridget Regan**  
Editor-in-Chief

Beaten, pistol whipped, tied to a fence for almost 18 hours, left in near freezing temperatures, and then on life support in a hospital is how Matthew Shepard, 21, spent the

last couple of days of his life. He was left to be found in the outskirts of Laramie, Wyoming. This heinous hate crime was provoked because Shepard was gay.

Since the colonization of our country, there have always been hate crimes, starting against the Native Americans, and continuing with discriminations against religion, heritage, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender and race. Discrimination stems from dislike and ignorance.

Black Box Theatre Productions, an age 21 and under youth theatre group, had the idea to do a production of *The Laramie Project*. Based on the Matthew Shepard case in 1998, a theatre group traveled to Laramie, Wyoming and conducted



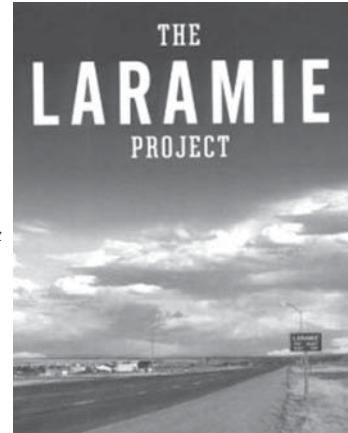
**Matthew Shepard**

hundreds of interviews with people from the area to get their feelings of the situation. The show is a collection of these interviews and the impact on the town and surrounding community.

*The Laramie Project* will be coming to Oyster River, as well as other schools in the community, in order

to inform today's youth and convey the message of peace and tolerance. There will also be two public performances of *The Laramie Project* on February 22nd and 23rd

at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre in Portsmouth. For tickets call, 603-433-4472, or go online to [seacoastrep.org](http://seacoastrep.org).



## A LETTER FROM YOUR PATRIOTIC EDITORS

Dearest Friends,

Welcome to America. Home of the brave. We are the greatest country of all time, there is no denying.

As you know, recently our school has started to recite each morning a proclamation of our unconditional love for America - otherwise known as the Pledge of Allegiance. There's nothing we love more than a little American Pride.

America is borderline perfect. These are the three simple things that make this the greatest country in the world - America:

1. Ford
2. Freedom
3. and FOOOOOTBALL

Here are some honorable mentions:

- Thanksgiving - the celebration of pounding back brews and munchin' on turkey.
- Slip n' slide - grease that baby up and you've got a heck of a day ahead of you
- "Big Green Tractor" by Jason Aldean
- And a nice cold Budweiser (when you're of age)

On a side note, no other country boasts the sheer quality of animals available; the wolf; the quail; the jaguar. Try and mess with that. Just try.

We love America, but we're the first to admit it has some faults:

1. Clay Aiken - arguably the worst thing about America
2. The fact that we're near Canada

For the last few months of this school year, we have yet another challenge for you; keep America first in your heart and don't be afraid to display your feelings on your t-shirt or crew neck sweatshirt.

'Cause there ain't nothin' better than 'Murrica.

Love you long time.

Long live America,

Benjamin Ray Cyrus and Bridget Kellie Pickler





**White?  
What?**

**Prometheus, wasn't  
he on some board?**



**VOTE!**  
March 8

**KNOWLEDGE. PRICELESS.**

**Megan Turnbull and Ann Lane**  
Durham, Madbury and Lee ★ At-large Candidates  
Oyster River Cooperative School District School Board

[meganturnbull.com](http://meganturnbull.com) [annlane.net](http://annlane.net)

## PENGUIN PLUNGE



*Photos courtesy of Mark Bolton, Union Leader photographer*

Sunday, February 6th, students, faculty and other supporters of the Special Olympics gathered together to plunge into the freezing cold ocean at Hampton Beach in Hampton, NH. Participants from Oyster River included: Kate Messler, Emily Rodgers, Emily Dube, Chole Piel, Meredith Gitschier, and lacrosse coaches Casey Reynolds and Kate McInnes Potvin and finally Athletic Secretary Mrs. Messler.





Jack Lewis  
Sports Writer

## WINTER SPORTS MEMORIES

### Girls' Basketball:



### Boys' Basketball:



### Girls' Hockey:



Congratulations to the Boys' Varsity swimming and diving team for winning their 4th consecutive Division II State Championship title.

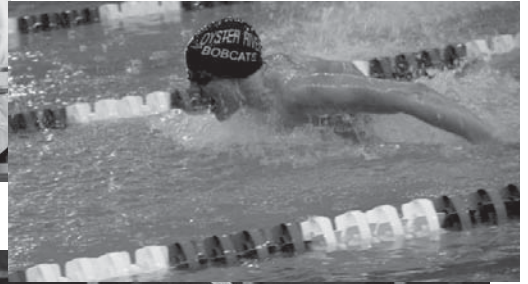
Great job to the Girls' Swimming and diving team for placing second at the State Championship meet.

Congratulations to the Boys' Varsity track team for winning the Division II state championship meet.

Great job to the Girls' Varsity track team for placing forth at the Division II state championship meet.



Boys' and Girls'  
Swimming and Diving:



Boys' Hockey:



Boys' and Girls'  
Track:



Ski Team:







**Rachel Murphy**  
**Sports Writer**

## THE FIVE D'S OF DODGEBALL: DODGE, DUCK, DIP, DIVE, AND DODGE!

People are dodging left and right, avoiding being hit as they jump out of the way. They throw their weapons at their opponents, mustering up all of their strength and then watching as their opponents are hit with a deafening blow and retreat to the outside of the court to watch hopelessly from the sidelines. Welcome to the dodgeball tournament.

On December 15th, an early release day, there was a dodgeball tournament open for anyone in the high school who wanted to join. Students organized teams of five or six members with at least two girls on a team. After several exciting quick games it was soon the championship round. The Therapists From Penn Island ended up winning the entire tournament. The winning team consisted of seniors: Chris Walker, Alex Hennessy, Jake Baver, Gen Davidson, John Andrew and Ashley Benuck.



The winners of the dodgeball tournament: Therapists From Penn Island celebrate their victory.



Seniors Emily Rodgers and Emma True exchange a shoulder bump before a game.



"Seniors" Spencer Wyand encourages his team onward from the sidelines.



The team EL337E made up of Robbie Greenleaf, Tommy Duvall, Megan MarkAnthony, Meredith Gitschier, Jesse and William Bornkessel pose for a photograph before the tournament began.



Tony Limauro avoids being struck from an uncoming blow as he throws a dodgeball at his enemy.



Senior Emily Rodgers prepares to charge the court for the start of a game by getting in ready position.





Jack Lewis  
Sports Writer

## ATHLETES OF THE ISSUE

### PAUL LARKIN



Senior Paul Larkin, a top Track runner for the State of New Hampshire has qualified for the most events on the Oyster River track team. Larkin was part of the 2011 School record setting 4x200M relay with teammates Ethan Druskat, Alex Johnson and Stephen Luna.

**Q: How does it feel to be a top runner on your team?**

A: "It feels good, very rewarding. There are a lot of bad workouts but it pays off in the end."

**Q: What is your favorite event?**

A: "4x200M Relay, because you get to work with your teammates. It's exciting because its the last event."

**Q: Do you have any bad memories through track?**

A: "I got injured my freshman year."

**Q: When did you first start running track?**

A: "Have been running track since Freshman year."

**Q: Do you have any pre-race rituals?**

A: "I eat a little bit of chocolate before my races."

**Q: What is your favorite brand of apparel?**

A: "Nike spikes"



Paul Larkin's track team  
jacket



Alex Johnson handing  
off to Paul in the 4x200

### HALEY JONES



Freshman Haley Jones has been a part of Seacoast Swimming Association since 2008, and since that time she has improved greatly with her swimming. As only a freshman Jones won both of her swimming events at her first High School level meet. Jones placed Second in the 200 yard freestyle at the State Meet on February 12th.

**Q: How does it feel to be a top swimmer on the team as a freshman?**

A: "I've watched both the boys and girls teams win state championships and I've been training really hard so I can hopefully help the girls win another championship!"

**Q: What is your best/favorite event?**

A: "My favorite event is the 200 freestyle."

**Q: Who is your favorite swimmer?**

A: "My favorite swimmer is Jenny Thompson. She swam for the same club team that I swim for now. I was coached by the same coach as her."

**Q: When did you start swimming?**

A: "I started swimming when I was in second grade. Up until sixth grade I only swam during the summer because I was a competitive gymnast in the winter."

**Q: Do you have any pre-swim rituals?**

A: "Before my races I like to listen to upbeat music to pump myself up."

**Q: What is your least favorite swim memory?**

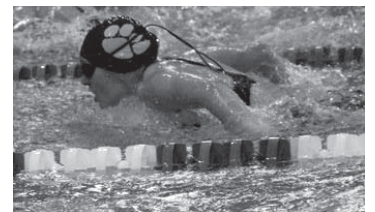
A: "My least favorite swim memory was when I was in third grade and I missed my race. I was forced to swim with the boys and I cried."

**Q: What is your favorite brand of apparel?**

A: "Nike Hydra fast suit. Almost everything else I wear is Speedo."



Haley Jones about to start  
for the 100 yard Butterfly



Haley Jones swimming the 200  
yard Individual Medley

Photos courtesy of Facebook





Jack Lewis  
Sports Writer

## WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS, AGAIN?

Not many teams can accomplish winning three state championships in a row. The quality and depth of the Oyster River High School swim team is incredible. "We have a lot of talented athletes" said Coach Bill Reeves. "Hopefully we can win a fourth State Championship."

The swim team trains at the crack of dawn twice a week, every week during the winter sports season. Along with the brutal morning practices, they train Monday nights and Sundays. Other times during the week they train in the school's gym working out. If you were to ask any of the swimmers whether or not they like 5 a.m. swim practice they would say "NO" in a heartbeat. Being able to wake your body up that early in the morning is the most difficult part. Senior Samantha Vaughn says, "I feel as if I am still asleep when I'm swimming that early."

The Oyster River boys' team has a lot of talented athletes coming from Dover's Seacoast Swimming Club team including Tom Duvall, Alex Jones and Joe Lane. These athletes are hoping to win all of their individual events in the State Championship meet.

Junior Alex Jones has been swimming almost his entire life, while playing soccer as a freshman. Jones says, "I chose to do swimming because they're a group, not divided." Jones is hoping to take the glory in the Men's 100 yard Butterfly, while he took second in last years championship meet.

On the girls' side they also have some very talented athletes coming from Seacoast including Ashley Ayer, Emma Rotner and Haley Jones. Ayer has been a top swimmer for Oyster River since her freshman year, but this year has been

a little different. At the end of the school year last year, Ayer underwent surgery on her leg because she had compartment syndrome, while this year she has been dealing with shoulder problems. Going to doctors and physical therapy have been a weekly occurrence for her. "I have to be very careful during

new difficult dives, that takes athletes years to learn.

Freshman Drew Thibault is also one of the top divers for the men's team at Oyster River. Thibault started diving with the Dover based Charles River Diving, and since then has been one of the star divers in New Hampshire. Thibault says, "I hope to place

top two in States, and to get my best score."

If the Oyster River boys' and girls' teams do as well as hoped, they should have a good showing at State Championships held at the UNH Swasey pool February 11th and 12th.



Alex Jones swimming the 200 Butterfly

practices and meets to make sure I don't injure myself more" says Ayer.

Diving is an easier way to score points, because most teams do not have divers. Oyster River has a new top diver this year. Senior Caitlin Ayer who used to be a gymnast on Tri-Star Gymnastics has wanted to be part of the diving team since her freshman year. Because she is also a top swimmer, Coach Bill Reeves wouldn't allow her to join until her senior year. Ayer has learned many



Poornima Aggarwal swimming the 200 Freestyle



Caitlin Ayer practicing her reverse dive in warm up



Tom Duvall diving in for his 100 Butterfly in the Bobcat Invitational

**FYI:** Shortly before this article went to press the boys' swim team won their fourth State title, while the girls' placed second.





**Michael Bilynsky**  
**Sports Writer**

## OYSTER RIVER SKI TEAM HITS THE SLOPES

Brogan O'Rourke's Atomic race skis carve into the mountain side as he turns through the last gate. He leans back into a tuck. His determined eyes peer through his tinted goggles, focused on the finish line. His skis rattle as they coast over the icy, corduroy groomed track. He crosses the finish line and relaxes his burning muscles after the tiring race.

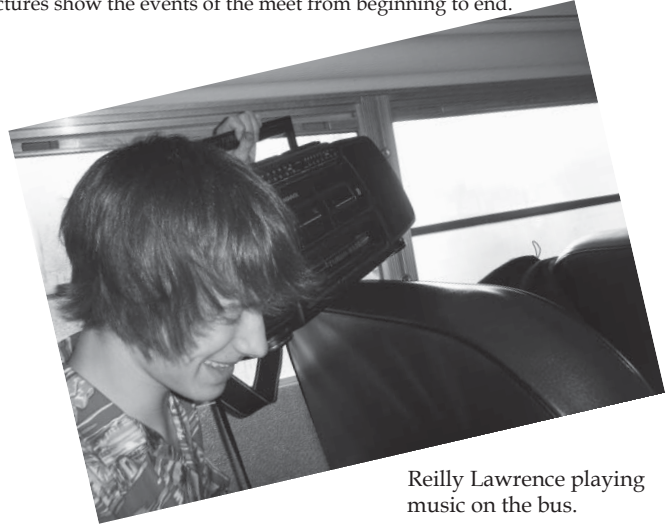
O'Rourke is one of 35 members of the Oyster River High School Ski Team and has just finished a high school ski race at Pat's Peak. Oyster River has only had a ski team for five years. High school ski racing is often overlooked by students and often by school publications due to the distance of the meets as well as the blistering cold that follows the sport. On January 5<sup>th</sup>, I tagged along as the team competed against other New Hampshire teams. These pictures show the events of the meet from beginning to end.



On race days, ski team members are dismissed early from their classes to make the one to three hour bus ride to the various races across the state. Before the team boards the bus, they meet outside the locker rooms to organize their equipment.



The massive amount of ski equipment makes traveling difficult. The team always needs to reserve several of the back seats to store skis, helmets and jackets. Brendan Mulhern, a member of the varsity ski team remarked at the lack of space on the bus. "There's not a lot of room on the bus when whole team rides up. We often need to fit three people to a seat."



Reilly Lawrence playing music on the bus.

Listening to music is one of the most popular ways to pass the time on the bus. Some skiers even dance on the ride up. Ethan Hotchkiss feels that the music helps strengthen team chemistry. "It's the best team bonding experience of any Oyster River team I have ever been on".



Eric Mulligan unpacks his skis after arriving at Pat's Peak.

Skiers need to unpack their equipment quickly as dozens of other teams wait in the parking lot to be dropped off. Mulligan brought a second pair of skis to free-ski after his race, which for many racers is the highlight of the trip.





Oyster River skiers scout out the course before their race.

Before every race, each skier slowly skis through the gates, inspecting difficult turns and icy spots along the track. After the run-through, each racer skis two timed runs. The two times are averaged to form the skiers individual time. The four best individual times are then combined to create the team's overall score. The team with the lowest combined score wins first place.



Junior Ryan Garner tears down the slopes in an effort to score points for the team.



Skiers from across the state wait for their turn on the course.

The race at Pat's Peak had over 170 competitors. These large numbers are common at ski races, and organization is key to the success of the race. Skiers are sent down the track before the previous competitor has even finished the course. Despite the efficiency of the races, the number of skiers causes the event to last for more than two hours, often past sunset.



Chole Piel races through a gate during one of her timed runs.



Eric Mulligan putting away his ski gear after a long day on the mountain.

Skiing is a difficult sport. The athletes that commit to it suffer long bus rides and tiring workouts for only a few hours on the mountain each week. Unfortunately, the distance between Oyster River High School and the various race mountains, as well as the cold weather discourages many fans from attending races. The only things driving these athletes to compete is the love of the sport and the special camaraderie that exists amongst the teammates.





**Rachel Murphy**  
**Sports Writer**

side or out, whether it's ice fishing or having a casual snow ball fight with your buddies. Look around you, there's no need to be bored for another snowy winter, trapped inside with nothing to do. Get out and do something exciting! It's time to get active, and have fun.

It's a typical Friday or Saturday night, and you don't have plans? Instead of watching reruns of *Cake Boss* or *America's Next Top Model*, there are plenty of things that you can do. Almost every weekend during the winter, there is usually a UNH Men's or Women's college hockey game at the Whittemore Center that you can easily get tickets for. I can promise you one thing, even if you are not a big sports fan, you'll at least have a bit of fun. It's time to grab a couple of your friends or family, buy some tickets and get out to watch a great game of hockey! If you haven't had the opportunity to see the talented college hockey players, you're missing out! Sherry Harriton of Durham thinks that going to a hockey game is "a fun time to be able to catch up with your grandkids, and see a great hockey game!" She smiled, "It's one of the things that I look forward to the most. If we haven't seen the grandkids during the week, we take them out to the hockey game. It's a tradition we've had for many years."

Another fun thing to do in the winter is going snowshoeing or cross country skiing. "Before this winter, I had never been cross country skiing, but one of my friends convinced me to go out and try it. It was actually a lot of hard work, something that it took getting used to but lots of fun," Jodi Murphy of Durham, stated with a grin.

## SO MANY WINTER ACTIVITIES!

There are plenty of trails in Madbury or Durham that are free to go on. You can go for miles, and miles with a friend or by yourself. It's a great way to spend an hour or two outside, and get exercise. What a lot of people probably don't know is that it is also an excellent workout.

Cross country skiing is much different than regular skiing. It requires a different type of skis than downhill skiing uses. It's im-



portant to know that cross country skiing takes a few times to learn. It's not something you can perfect your first time out. So get out to the trails, have some fun before the sunlight dies out for the day and get in some great exercise.

If you're looking to try something completely new, go ice fishing! It may seem boring, and it takes a lot of patience, but you don't know until you try! During the winter, there is always people who are out ice fishing at the landing downtown. If you're a new and inexperienced ice fisher, don't



**Sophomores Melissa Stevens and Rebecca Murphy pose with their snowman.**

be worried! There are plenty of people you can ask at the landing downtown about what supplies you may need or how to ice fish.

Lastly, there's one other thing you can get out and do during the winter. You may not have done it for years, but go out with friends, make a snowman or have a snow ball fight. A lot of us nowadays, haven't been sledding in ages. "On the last snow day, my friend Melissa and I went out and made a snowman," Oyster River Sophomore, Rebecca Murphy said. "It was something we haven't done in a long time, but it was a lot of fun!"

If you can't find any enjoyment from any of these winter activities, I dare you to go out and invent one of your own! There's so much to do. Go out, have fun, before this winter ends!



**Seniors make snow angels in the snow.**





Michael Bilynsky  
Sports Writer

## DANIELLE SCORES HER THOUSANDTH POINT



Walczak goes up for a shot in Oyster River's home game against Bedford

Walczak received the ball from Maynard as she cut in front of the hoop. She power dribbled by her defender to the left and laid the ball in for her twenty-second point of the game.

Danielle Walczak has averaged 21.5 points a game during her fourth and final season on the Oyster River girls' varsity team, but that is not what is truly remarkable. The basket was also Walczak's 1001<sup>st</sup> point of her high school career, making her one of only sixteen Oyster River students and alumni to ever score 1000 points.

Walczak has had plenty of support from her coach and teammates. Hallie Miller, a senior on the girls' basketball team said, "I was more happy for her than anything else. I feel that her hard work and hours before and after practice make her more than deserving of her accomplishment."

Coach Dave Nichols was also very happy for Walczak. "I am very proud of her. You would have to go back a long way to find a player that reached that pinnacle without scoring a three point basket," he said. "This was always one of her goals for the year, but there is no question that she always put the team first. I am sure she will be successful at The University of Maine because she is such a hard worker."



MacArthur taking a slap shot

## JENNY MACARTHUR JOINS THE OYSTER RIVER CENTURY CLUB



Jenny MacArthur waiting for the face-off

Red and blue banners line the top of the gym wall. These banners represent the dozens of state championship Oyster River history. At the end of the wall is a banner that represents the elite club of goal scorers of boys' and girls' hockey. Jenny MacArthur is the only girl on this small list of players. She is one of only seven players to score one-hundred points, following in her brother Chris' footsteps who scored his hundredth point in 2007.

MacArthur has played on the girls' ice hockey team since her freshman year and as a veteran player has earned the respect of her teammates. Teammate Brittany Lapointe said, "She's worked very hard for it. She does what's best for the team and doesn't just try to score goals for herself."

Jenny has also showed a lot of leadership amongst the girls' hockey team. Coach James Long has coached MacArthur for almost five years and has formed a very high opinion of her. "She sets the example as well as her fellow captain Meredith Gitschir, both in practice and in games. When your best players are setting the tone by working hard the rest follow," said Long. "I have coached Jenny since she was in 8th grade and even then she was better than a lot of high school girls on the team. I should also note that our girls are good sports and do not run up the score against the weaker teams, if they did there is no question Jenny could have had her 100 points in three years. Jenny

was also moved back to defense, this most likely costs her points as well. To Jenny's credit no complaints. She just did what was best for the team, a very unselfish player." Coach Long feels that Jenny will adjust well to post high school and collegiate hockey. "There is no question that she can play at a higher level. Jenny sets the bar high for herself and with her determination will do well at the collegiate level."



# LET THE GAMES BEGIN!



**Megan McGregor**  
Guest Writer

Quidditch ('kwidit) -Noun: An imaginary game in which players fly around on broomsticks. While this may sound like an activity designed for amateurs many would argue it is quite the opposite.

Lizzy McKay, a freshman at Tufts, plays as a Beater for the Tufflepuffs says, "Quidditch is a really intense game. It's sort of like hockey where you're constantly subbing in, so you end

up sprinting nonstop for a few minutes then subbing out."

So what is so great about the game anyways? For most, if not all Quidditch players, being a diehard fan is a hidden prerequisite. Ryan Pekins, Oyster River Alumni and currently a junior at St. Lawrence says, "I've always been a huge Harry Potter fan, of the books that is. I've read all of them multiple times (too many to remember) and I actually did a post graduate year at Hogwarts. I also enjoy flying." It is the fantasy aspect which draws in the thousands of fans and athletes.

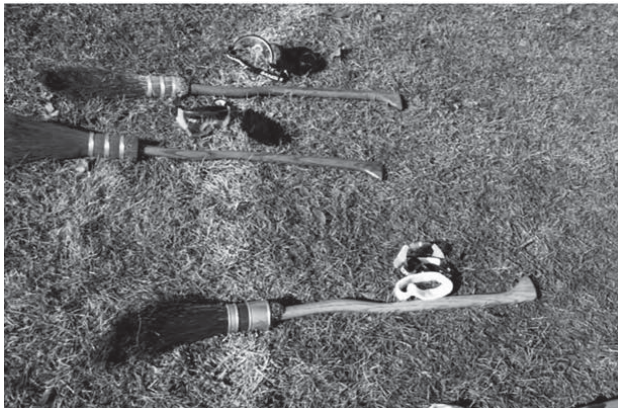
Being unique is also a captivating reason why many got hooked. Hudson Cavanagh, a freshman at Middlebury College says, "Although I was a big time Harry Potter fan, playing Quidditch for me was not related [to Harry Potter]. The first weekend after orientation there were a bunch of Quidditch games happening on campus and they were blasting music which drew my attention. After watching how competitive and physical the games were I was instantly hooked and showed up the next couple weeks for the games." That seems to be the story for many Quidditch players. While some may have played sports in high school, they



**Tuftlepuffs competing at the Middlebury Cup**

*Photo courtesy of internationalquidditch.org*

chose not to continue to play those same sports in college; rather they took their talents to the Quidditch field.



**Some typical Quidditch equipment: brooms, goggles and gloves**

*Photo courtesy of internationalquidditch.org*



**An intense snitch grab for McGill University**

*Photo courtesy of internationalquidditch.org*

A difference from high school sports is the absence of the coaching staff. "That is part of the allure, there are no coaches except the upper classmen and veteran Quidditch players, at least

at Middlebury," Cavanagh says. It is the function of a club and responsibility of the team captains to organize intramural games. There are inter-collegiate games, which are organized between colleges, but usually they are just warm-ups for bigger tournaments. Most things, like the Quidditch World Cup are organized by the IQA, the International Quidditch Association, which depends largely on donations, but does have a board of trustees.

While the sport does involve a lot of commitment it is not as rigorous as a varsity sport. McKay says, "We have a full practice for two hours on Saturdays where we do some drills but scrimmage most of the time. Then on Thursdays we have conditioning where we basically do running activities to keep in shape." At Middlebury, Cavanagh's team practices on Sundays, with a couple extra practices before the Middlebury Cup. Before the actual World Cup, practices take place every day. "For our team practices, we ran a couple of drills adopted from other sports like the three-man-weave to work on ball work and passing, a drill to work on gathering loose balls, keep away and scrimmaging."

Quidditch is a great sport for college kids because it is relatively cheap and who does not love a cheap activity? "The one piece of equipment everyone needs when we show up for practices (twice a week) is some type of object to hold between the legs, preferably a broom but anything works. I use a wiffle-ball bat." Pekins says. "Otherwise the only other equipment include, three hoops on each side of the pitch used as posts with hoola hoops attached to the top, a quaffle (a slightly deflated volleyball or soccer ball), bludgers (red playground balls) and the snitch (a tennis ball in a sock dangling from the pants of a person, usually someone fast, like a cross country runner)."

## Mandatory Equipment

Each player must be equipped with the following:

- A broom
- A colored headband distinguishing the player's position while on the field of play.
- Players on the same team must wear shirts or jerseys of the same color and likeness.

## Recommended Equipment

Each player is recommended but is not required to be equipped with the following:

- Mouth guards
- Goggles
- Shin guards - are covered by socks, made of rubber, plastic or similar material
- Cleats - any kind of metal cleats are not allowed
- Gloves
- Capes

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Now, not everyone is as excited about the Quid-ditch band-wagon, as the game is not for everyone.



Senior Teams preparing for the game, at Middlebury College at Oyster River High School, Emily Beliveau does not have a passion for Harry Potter or Quidditch. "They can't actually fly," Beliveau says. "I have no interest to play because I am not a Harry Potter fan." On the other hand Senior Lauren Coryea could not disagree more. As a true Harry Potter fan she feels Quidditch "makes you feel like you are a little kid again." Coryea's interest in Quidditch is derived from the idea that "it feels like you are in Harry Potter for a second; and that would be really cool!"

***"It makes you feel like you are a little kid again"***

For participants and fans, the sport of Quid-ditch provides a

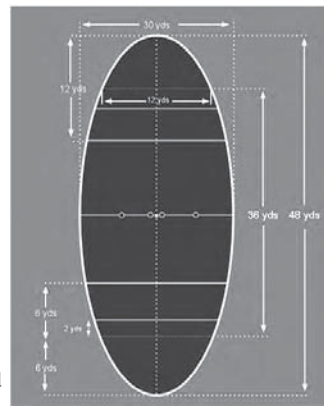
sense of fun; and a whole new bunch of friends. Pekins says, "The Saint Lawrence Quidditch team is quite the mix of people. Some of the members are good athletes and others are just straight up Harry Potter nerds. I guess I consider myself the rare combination, but it's great because different types of people come together and get along." When it is all said in done, after a long, hard fought battle, the Quidditch teams like to celebrate with some "off-the-pitch activities, including a party where butterbeer was on tap."

**Field of Play:**

- The field of play is ovalar and should be marked with either lines or a series of cones. The field is divided into two halves by a midfield line, which joins the midpoints of the two sidelines. The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the midfield line.

**Hoops**

- The tallest hoop must be placed in the center, while the other two hoops are placed on either side parallel to the vertical line. The goal hoops must be placed in an order that mirrors the opposite side's set of goal hoops.



Typical Quidditch field

**Role Call!**

***The Keeper***

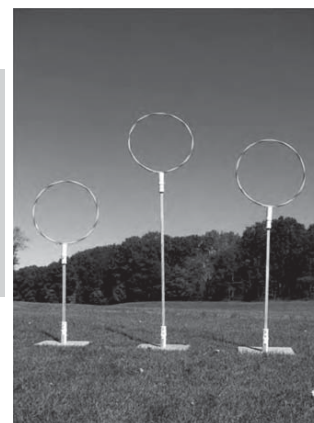
**Keepers on field per Team: 1**

**Game Ball Used: Quaffle (a**

**volleyball)**

**Headband Color: Green**

**Objective:** Prevent opponents from throwing the Quaffle through the goal hoops.



Three Quidditch hoops, hoola hoops attached to pipes



Middlebury Beater gets ready to let one loose

***Beaters***

**Beaters on field per team: 2**

**Game Ball Used: Bludger (a**

**dodge ball)**

**Headband Color: Black**

**Objective:** Throw the Bludgers to disrupt the flow of the match by "knocking out" other players.

***The Seeker***

**Seekers in play, per match: 1**

**Game Ball Used: The Snitch (the**

**Snitch is a tennis ball held**

**Objective:** Snatch the Snitch! inside of a sock carried by a snitch runner)

***The Snitch Runner***

**Snitch on field per team: 1**

**Game Ball Used: The Snitch**

**Headband Color: Yellow**

**Objective:** Evade the Seekers



Snitch Grab!

***Chasers***

**Chasers on field per team: 3**

**Game ball used: Quaffle (a volleyball)**

**Headband color: White**

**Objective:** Throw, kick, or in any way pass the Quaffle through the opposing team's goal hoops to score 10 points.



Score, fight, win!



Playing hard is always fun



Photos courtesy of [internationalquidditch.org](http://internationalquidditch.org)

Love is... "a grapefruit." -Jake Baver, Senior





**Katie Burzon**  
Guest-Writer

It's Christmas Day, 2010. The sky is blue and the waves are rolling. Surprisingly to all the non surfers of New England, there's a plethora of wet suited natives catching a few chilly waves.

In New Hampshire, the large winter Nor'easter storms will often cause big waves and a nice offshore wind along the 18 mile long New Hampshire coastline. However cold and painful this might sound to the other citizens of NH, these conditions are perfect for the local surfers.

David Cropper, the owner of Cinnamon Rainbows in Hampton, NH can often be found catching a few of the wintry waves. Cropper started surfing at age 11 and started surfing



**David Cropper can be found working at Cinnamon Rainbows all the time.**

in the winter at age 15. To this day Cropper has been an avid winter surfer. "[In the winter] the conditions are good because of the offshore winds, it creates a bigger surf, especially with the winter storms and blizzards."

traveling to surf, Cropper still can't get enough of those NH waves. "There's just something about surfing on your own turf."

It's not just the surfer dudes of New Hampshire who are out catching the

## SUNNY DAYS AND CHILLY WAVES



**The Christmas Day Surfers can be found sitting on their boards, looking out into the horizon.**

Cropper states that many people surf in the winter. "I've even seen this 10 year old kid who comes out to surf!" says Cropper, who says that the age range of winter surfers is around 10 and up.

Though surfing in the winter is fun, Cropper warns that it's not for beginners. "Summer is really the time for learning to surf," he says. "The waves are smaller and the water's a little warmer."

Cropper has surfed all over the world. "Fiji, Chile, Bali..." Cropper names just a few. Though he loves

waves. The staff and student body of Oyster River can be found on their boards at this time of the year too.

Jon Bromley is a well known surfer in the Oyster River community. "I started surfing

10 years ago," the science teacher recollects, "I had friends in college who really introduced me to the sport and then I moved to the NH coast and got more into it." Bromley surfs a lot in the summer but also surfs in the winter. "I surf when there are good waves," Bromley says about how often he surfs. He admits that with his family, the opportunity to surf gets slim. "Sometimes you'll have a period of good surfing, for about two days in a row, but then you might get to the point where you don't go for a whole month."

Junior Conor McNamara claims that

### Where to Go?

#### Jenness Beach

Skill Level: For everyone.

Wave Type: Beach Break.

Best Tide: Mid Tide.

Bottom Type: Sand.

Directions: Almost 4 miles north of the end of The Wall on Route 1A.

Parking: Metered.

Near By Surf Shops: Cinnamon Rainbows: (603) 926 9283

#### The Wall

Skill Level: For Everyone.

Wave Type: Beach Break.

Best Tide: Mid tide.

Bottom Type: Mostly sand, but there are a rocks.

Directions: On Route 1A.

Parking: Metered

Near By Surf Shops: Cinnamon Rainbows: (603) 926 9283





Allie Harris surfing in Tortola.

he has gone surfing in the winter but that he's very against it. "I'm too lazy," laughs McNamara. "The thick wetsuits and everything.... You get too constricted!" Because of the extremely cold waters, it's not required, but just a necessity that you wear a very thick wetsuit. "It's like you're in cement," complains McNamara. "I feel like the kid in 'A Christmas Story', who has to wear that big snowsuit."

Though he's picky about when he surfs, McNamara has enough experience under his belt to have legitimate detestation against winter surfing. McNamara has been surfing since he was around the age of 4. "I only really got into it at 13 though," recalls McNamara. "My dad surfed a lot and was really good, which got my whole family into surfing. My family and I will go up to Ogunquit a lot in the summer to surf together." McNamara has surfed in the winter but still believes that summer surfing is what's best.

Bromley says that the hardest part of surfing in the winter isn't so much the cold or the giant wetsuit but the lack of sun. "There are so few hours of daylight in the winter," says Bromley. "Morning is generally the best time to go, but of course with morning comes the cold temperatures."

ORHS Sophomore, Allie Harris, is also

a fan of surfing, however to her surfing in the winter doesn't mean freezing cold temps and snowy sand, but tropical waters and warm sandy beaches. During the winter, Harris and her family enjoy surfing all over the Caribbean. "It's been a family tradition," Harris explains.

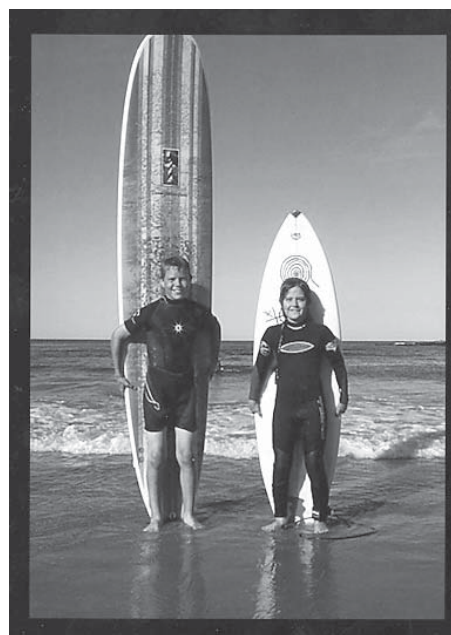
Harris was taught how to surf, at age 7 or 8, by her dad and brothers. "My dad was the one who pushed me the most," Harris recalls. "He would stay out in the water with me for hours." Though Harris learned to surf in Hampton, she has surfed a lot in the Caribbean, specifically Barbados, Puerto Rico, Costa Rico and Tortola, British Virgin Islands. "You can find really incredible surf conditions in any of the places I've traveled depending on the season, swell, weather, wind and/or beach," says Harris. "But my favorite break is in Tortola."

"I always wanted to surf Australia ever since I was really little," says Harris. "It has been a dream of mine for a while, and I hope to get there someday."

Bromley hasn't traveled anywhere to surf yet but claims that the best

surfing he has experienced was at Jenness Beach. He hopes to do more surfing around the world. "This year is my 10th anniversary of surfing so I really hope I can travel somewhere really nice with my family," Bromley envisions.

McNamara believes that surfing in NH is becoming even more popular. "I was reading some [surfing] magazine and it was saying that New Hampshire is where winter surfing is at. That and hurricane season are really good times to go," he explains. Though winter surfing isn't as popular, the conditions are prime, "In NH, I'd guess about 40% of surfers surf year round," McNamara speculates.



Little Conor McNamara and Little Eddie Irvin with their boards.

Bromley believes that in order to call yourself a real surfer you have to be willing to do it year round. "There are definitely a lot fewer high school surfers in the winter," says Bromley. Bromley can understand that since students have schoolwork, sports, jobs and after-school activities, getting out to a beach can be difficult.

"I'm still learning to surf," says Bromley. "I don't think you can ever plateau." Bromley hopes to keep surfing for a while. "As a surfer, you're always looking for the next best wave." As long as there are waves crashing onto the sandy beaches of the world, people like Bromley will be looking for exactly that, the next best wave.





## Get Started on Surfing!

### Where to go:

Check these places out, the staff of all three shops are friendly and are always willing to help any beginner out. Ask about weather conditions, tides and the time of day to find out when it's best for you to go surfing!

Cinnimon Rainbows:  
931 Ocean Boulevard  
Hampton, NH  
(603) 929-7467

Pioneers Board Shop:  
62 Lafayette Road  
North Hampton, NH  
(603) 964-7714

Summer Sessions:  
(Open only in summer)  
1209 Ocean Boulevard  
Rye, New Hampshire  
(603)-431-0316

### Next stop, Getting Gear:

#### What you'll need:

##### • Wetsuit:

Wetsuits can be rented and bought at any of the above surf shops. It's important to always have an experienced sales person help you find the right suit. Even the littlest things can make a big difference.

Where to rent a wetsuit?

o Cinnimon Rainbows:

Full day: \$15 Half day: \$10

o Pioneers:

Full: \$10

o Summer Sessions:

Full: \$15 Half: \$10



##### • Board:

"The best boards for beginners are long boards," says Cropper, "But I recommend getting started with an instructor [at a lesson] where they will help you find the correct board and wetsuit."

Where to rent a board?

o Cinnimon Rainbows:

Full day: \$25 Half day: \$20

o Pioneers:

Full: \$20

o Summer Sessions:

Full: \$25 Half: \$20

##### • Combo deals (board and wetsuit) :

o Cinnimon Rainbows:

Full day: \$35 Half day: \$25

o Summer Sessions:

Full ONLY: \$35

### Finally, Catch some waves:

##### • Lessons: Getting taught

a lesson is the key part to learning to surf. In order to learn everything you need to know it's highly suggested that you start off with an instructor. "Lessons are the best way to learn," says Cropper, "Go into a [surf] shop and get assisted. They'll teach you the do's and don't's, etiquette and how to get up on the board."

o Cinnimon Rainbows:

Full day: \$35 Half day: \$25

o Pioneers:

Full Day: \$50/hr (private)

o Summer Sessions:

Full Day ONLY: \$35

